





The United Campus Christian Fellowship

Proposed Articles of Union

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As prepared by the Merger Planning Committee of

DISCIPLES STUDENT FELLOWSHIP
(International Convention
of Christian Churches)

STUDENT FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL
(Evangelical United Brethren Church)

UNITED STUDENT FELLOWSHIP
(United Church of Christ—
Congregational Christian Churches and
the Evangelical and Reformed Church)

WESTMINSTER STUDENT FELLOWSHIP
(United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.)

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I. FORWARD

CONVERSATIONS around the merger proposals during the past three years have served to emphasize the agreement in the BASIS and AIM of the National Student Christian Federation which we share with the other N.S.C.F. movements.

While consideration of proposals have been under way among negotiating movements, we have been encouraged that on many campuses and in many intercollegiate fellowships there has developed a growing conviction regarding the need for all student Christian movements to re-shape their life within the context of their mission on campus.

We recognize that a number of the N.S.C.F. movements have found themselves unable to participate in the ongoing merger negotiations at the national level. However, on a large number of campuses and in several regions we are engaged in conversations and negotiations which are more inclusive than our national negotiations. We believe this is consistent with our commitment as member movements within the National Student Christian Federation: "to stimulate, to strengthen, and increasingly unite the student Christian movements in a corporate life of study, work, and worship, and to foster campus Christian community."¹ Furthermore, these wider explorations are central to the Aim of the U.C.C.F. Articles of Merger: "to further conversations with our fellow campus Christian movements, sensitive to the imperative for unity in mission and aware that our own union is only a partial realization of that unity for which our Lord is calling."²

The initiative which is leading to the United Campus Christian Fellowship has come from the student movements. Because of the way in which the churches have ministered in the universities for many years, these student movements, with their varying degrees of self-consciousness and autonomy, have been the primary organizations for expressing the life of Christians within our college. As such, the present merger is a union of these national student bodies.

These efforts toward unity, however, have made us keenly aware of the unfortunate fragmentation of campus life into undergraduate, graduate, administrative and faculty segments. Because of this awareness and because of a growing commitment to a philosophy of Campus Christian Life which seeks to treat the college and university as a total community, we are concerned that the developing life of the U.C.C.F. represent a framework within which we may express the total campus ministry of our several communions.

¹ From the AIM and BASIS, Constitution and By-Laws of the United Student Christian Council. (See page 17 of this booklet.)

² PLAN OF MERGER of Several Student Christian Movements (Revised Edition), page 6, point 9 of AIM. (See page 10 of this booklet.)

We are united in our conviction that God calls us to *one* mission within the university and we desire to remain open to new patterns of life and organization for all members of the university community as we grow together into this mission. We pray that the U.C.C.F. will become an expression of that mission in every area of campus life.

It is not our plan to establish a uniform U.C.C.F. pattern throughout the country, but rather to join in the most inclusive expression of Christian student movement life consistent with our objectives as indicated in the Point of View and Basis and Aim of the Articles of Union. We recognize that we are involved within a varied and constantly changing situation with respect to the student Christian movements and the needs within higher education throughout the country. Therefore we urge our movements to remain flexible in responding to the needs of the regions, while at the same time recognizing that what may prove possible and effective in some locations may not necessarily be applicable elsewhere.

The National Ecclesia of the Disciples of Christ Student Fellowship voted in August, 1957, in favor of the proposed merger, subject to ratification by the 1960 Ecclesia. The action is being carried to the International Convention of Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) and other interested agencies of the communion for their approval. The action of the 1960 Ecclesia is expected to be contingent upon the action of these agencies.

Evangelical United Brethren students met during the 1957 Christmas vacation and ratified the U.C.C.F. proposals. Although this body was not a legislative group, the affirmative vote indicated the students' wishes to the Board of Christian Education who next considered the plan. The highest governing body of the church, the General Conference, in October, 1958 approved the participation of E.U.B. students. Local campus units have been studying the proposals to prepare themselves for participation when the merger is consummated.

The United Student Fellowship, at its national legislative assembly and conference in August, 1957, voted authorization to merge into the U.C.C.F. whenever any one or more of the negotiating movements takes similar action.

In August, 1957, the Westminster Fellowship of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., meeting as a student legislative assembly, took positive action in favor of the proposed plan of merger. A recommendation for merger from this student legislative assembly was referred to the Board of Christian Education and to the 1959 General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., for appropriate action.

In light of these actions, the Merger Planning Committee is planning to convene the U.C.C.F. Uniting Assembly in August of 1960. The Articles of Union presented here are recommended as the provisional organization by which the U.C.C.F. will function nationally until a constitution has been adopted.



II. POINT OF VIEW

These Articles of Union are based upon a definite conviction as to how the churches must carry out their mission on the campus. The churches are not at the university just to keep students safely within the fold. Neither are they there simply to borrow some of the prestige of higher education, to prove that intellectuals believe in God, nor to beat out the secularists in a power struggle for control of the campus.

The mission of the Church is to express God's love in the world. Each Christian is called upon to live out his faith in his own area of life and work. For the student, this area is the campus. A campus Christian movement exists to help students carry out the mission of the Church in their campus life.

This means that the purpose of campus Christian programs is not simply to raise up more faithful Presbyterians or Congregationalists. Christians in the university are to pursue their studies as a Christian calling, knowing also that through their participation in the life of the university they may most fully convey their faith in Jesus Christ to others.

This is the reason for national student Christian movements and special campus Christian ministries. Christians on the campus are not called simply to establish higher-grade Sunday schools or slightly intellectualized local church programs. Rather they are called to find ways of living and working together as Christians while being caught up in the day-to-day life of the university—in study, in discussion, in extra-curricular programs and organizations.

From this point of view, questions have been raised about traditional patterns of church life and organization. Is our job on the campus—are the issues that are raised for Christian faith in the university—of the sort that moves us to emphasize our denominational differences, or does it rather cause us to look to our common Christian heritage? Does our lack of unity create added difficulties for us? Why has there been a history of efforts to achieve a unified student Christian movement? Does this grow out of something in the nature of campus life? Do we feel responsible to unite in our efforts in order to assist the university in fulfilling its task?

Our campus Christian movements are also church-related movements, and the fact of our disunity as denominations cannot be ignored. But as we face our responsibilities on the campus, is God calling us to heal our divisions? It is above all in the attempt to carry out its mission in the world that the Church is driven toward unity (as, e.g., in South India). This happens not only on the campus, but wherever the Church remembers that it is called to minister to a needy world and seeks not to preserve itself but to lay down its life in love and sacrificial service. Can



we not expect that God may use our experience of life together as a step toward the greater unity of His Church?

As Lesslie Newbigin has said:

“(The Church’s) life is precisely life under the sign of the Cross, which means that she desires to possess no life, no security, no righteousness of her own, but to live solely by His grace. When she becomes settled, when she becomes so much at home in this world that she is no longer content to be forever striking her tents and moving forward, above all when she forgets that she lives simply by God’s mercy and begins to think that she has some claim on God’s grace which the rest of the world has not, . . . then she comes under His merciful judgment as Israel did.” (*The Household of God*, page 28.)



III. PROPOSED ARTICLES OF UNION

Preamble

We, the delegated representatives of the DISCIPLES STUDENT FELLOWSHIP of the International Convention of Christian Churches, of the STUDENT FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL of the Evangelical United Brethren Church, of the UNITED STUDENT FELLOWSHIP of the United Church of Christ, and of the WESTMINSTER STUDENT FELLOWSHIP of the United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., believing that the mission of the church is to express God's love in the world, and believing that we are called to unite our campus Christian movements to carry out this mission in our campus life, DO NOW DECLARE OURSELVES TO BE ONE MOVEMENT, and do set forth the following articles as the basis of our life together.

1. Name

The name of the movement formed by this union shall be the UNITED CAMPUS CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP.

2. Basis

The basis of the United Campus Christian Fellowship is the faith attested by the Holy Scriptures and affirmed in the confessions* and life of the Church, that God incarnate in Jesus Christ and present in the Holy Spirit wills to reconcile men to himself, and that he is acting in history, creating, judging and redeeming.

We affirm that in the Church of Christ we are members of one body, and we believe that we are called to the organic union of our campus Christian movements as a more adequate expression of our unity in the Church, that we may better proclaim the Gospel in campus and community life.

3. Aim

The aim of the United Campus Christian Fellowship shall be:

1. To further the mission of the Church within the campus community; uniting a common task on the larger campuses; uniting in our effort to serve the smaller campuses.

2. To deepen the Christian faith of students and faculty, to strengthen campus units, and to broaden ecumenical understanding through common experiences in intercollegiate campus Christian movements.

* It is understood that the word "confession" as used in the statement would include the Augsburg Confession, the Westminster Confession of Faith, the Articles of Religion, catechisms, confessions of faith, covenants and other historical statements of the participating movements.

3. To provide for effective growth and participation of members of the campus Christian community in the life and work of the churches.

4. To receive the nurture of the Church and at the same time to enable the UCCF to be a prophetic voice within the life of the churches, pioneering on all frontiers of faith and work.

5. To increase sensitivity to and understanding of the responsibilities of the Christian community within the university and to help the university become more fully itself.

6. To increase the sensitivity to and understanding of the responsibility to which God calls students and faculty in the political, economic and social world.

7. To enable our communions to exercise greater stewardship of funds and leadership which have been granted for the campus ministry and the campus Christian movement.

8. To deepen our understanding of and participation in the ecumenical movement in the Church, especially through the United Student Christian Council and the World's Student Christian Federation.

9. To further conversations with our fellow campus Christian movements, sensitive to the imperative for unity in mission and aware that our own union is only a partial realization of that unity for which our Lord is calling; and to make it possible for communions without organized campus Christian movements to share in the mission of the Church within colleges and universities.

4. National Organization

A. UNITING ASSEMBLY

The UNITING ASSEMBLY shall be composed of 400 delegates, 100 being selected by each of the merger movements according to its own practice. The Uniting Assembly shall be the agent for the adoption of the Articles of Union and the electorate for the first National Council.

The presiding officers for the Uniting Assembly shall be selected by the Merger Planning Committee or the Joint Executive Committees of the merging movements.

B. PROVISIONAL STRUCTURE

I. National Council

The National Council shall be the legislative and policy making body of the national United Campus Christian Fellowship.

The National Council shall be composed of not more than 100 persons representative of all regions of the country. Any member of the U.C.C.F.

shall be eligible for membership on the National Council. Members of the preceding year's executive committee shall be voting members ex officio of the National Council.

The first National Council will serve from the Uniting Assembly until the second National Council is constituted one year following.

The first National Council shall be elected by the Uniting Assembly, nominations having been made by the Merger Planning Committee or the Joint Executive Committees of the merging movements. Joint meetings of these committees will be held during the academic year previous to the Uniting Assembly.

Delegates to succeeding National Councils are to be elected by the Regional United Campus Christian Fellowship Councils, where such exist. For regions where no Regional Councils exist, delegates are to be selected through procedures developed in cooperation with the national Executive Committee.

The National Council shall elect the National Executive Committee.

II. Executive Committee

The National Executive Committee shall be composed of the following:

Officers: Chairman, 1st Vice Chairman, 2nd Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer.

Members-at-large—a total of fourteen persons, including eight students, four campus ministry staff nominated by the campus ministry fellowships of the participating communions, and two faculty members.

Of the five officers, at least three shall be undergraduate students.

Of the eight student members at large, at least five shall be undergraduate students.

Ex officio Members: National Secretariat—a total of five persons, including the U.C.C.F. administrative secretary and one executive staff representative of each of the four participating communions who shall serve as co-executive secretaries.

It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to serve as the interim planning and supervisory body, between National Council meetings, in matters of program, personnel and finance.

Nominations for the First Executive Committee shall be made by the Merger Planning Committee or the Joint Executive Committees of the merging movements or by a committee of them.

Nominations for succeeding Executive Committees shall be made by a nominating committee, appointed by the Executive Committee.

III. Committees

COMMITTEE FOR MERGER CONVERSATIONS—committee to carry on conversations and/or negotiations with other movements.

COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTION—to begin work on a constitution for the national U.C.C.F.

OTHER COMMITTEES may be named by the National Council and/or the National Executive Committee.

IV. Relationships

(a) CHURCH RELATIONS

It will be the objective of the U.C.C.F. that students and faculty of the Fellowship will continue in the public worship and instruction of their churches whether in the campus community, or in their home communities. Every effort must be made to increase their sense of identification with and participation in the life and work of the churches. At the same time the U.C.C.F. will remain responsive to the stated convictions and pronouncements of these communions and sensitive to the experience of their members in worship and program.

A COMMISSION FOR CHURCH RELATIONS shall be established. Its members shall include three representatives of each of the participating communions and twelve representatives of the U.C.C.F.

It is urged that the Communion Representatives be selected by the appropriate national representative/governing body of each of the communions.

The U.C.C.F. representatives are to be selected by the U.C.C.F. National Executive Committee. (See IV *Interpretations*; F. Relation of U.C.C.F. to Parent Communions—P. 24. Also V. Areas for Study and Discussions; 5. Backgrounds of U.C.C.F. Communions—P. 28. Also see VII below—Proposals for Administration.)

(b) ECUMENICAL STUDENT MOVEMENT RELATIONS

The U.C.C.F. will continue to fulfill its responsibilities as a participating movement of the National Student Christian Federation which is the American section of the World's Student Christian Federation.

V. National Secretariat

(a) CO-EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES

One executive campus ministry staff representative of each of the participating communions shall comprise the Co-Executive Staff.

(b) ADMINISTRATIVE AND STAFF CHAIRMAN

The National Executive Committee shall elect an Administrative Secretary and Staff Chairman. This person need not be one of the Co-Executive Secretaries.



These staff personnel shall comprise the National Secretariat of the U. C. C. F.

VI. Finance

A budget for the ensuing academic year shall be adopted by the National Council. The Merger Planning Committee or the Joint Executive Committees of the merging movements shall serve as the budget planning committee for the first annual budget.

VII. Proposals for Administration

It is recognized that the U.C.C.F. cannot provide for the organic union of the boards and committees to which the communions have assigned responsibility for the provision of budget, staff and facilities for a campus ministry. It is recommended, however, that:

(a) The communions whose movements are being merged in U.C.C.F. should take steps toward local coordinative committees, composed of students, faculty and board representatives, which would approve personnel being called for each participating group, appoint a staff chairman and counsel and guide the development of staff resources in the interests of a group ministry of the U.C.C.F.

(b) These communions should take steps toward such state or regional and national coordinative committees as will facilitate planning and provision of budget and staff resources for the U.C.C.F. (See IV. Interpretations—F. Page 24. Also V. Areas for Study and Discussion. 5. Page 28. Also IV (a) above Church Relations—Page 12.)

5. Local and Regional Organization

I. Proposals for Local Developments

(See V. Areas for Study and Discussion—Pp. 26.)

(a) STRUCTURE

We believe that the development of local structure will vary with the demands of campus life. The following is not an effort to specify the details of local structure. Such plans should grow out of the particular situation. The following are general suggestions which may be used for determining structure:

(1) *Small Campus* (ca. 600)

On small campuses we would foster a United Student Christian Association wherever possible. U.S.C.A. would be the inclusive voluntary Christian organization of students on the campus. Besides including groups in the present merger, this U.S.C.A. might well be representative of the "Y," other denominational student groups or

vocational fellowships, if these groups find the U.S.C.A. the best way for a united ministry to the students of the small campus. (See IV. Interpretations, A.1. Page 18.)

(2) *Middle-size Campus* (ca. 2000)

We shall strive to measure our work by our intention to make a more effective ministry to the total campus. We suggest uniting existing groups wherever practicable. On some campuses our fellowship would include groups both in the present merger and outside the present merger which are already united in their campus ministry. We also recognize that on some campuses the most effective outreach to students and faculty will call for several units of the U.C.C.F. (See IV. Interpretations, A. D. Pages 18f. & 21.)

(3) *Large Campus* (ca. 6000)

On large campuses at present, we would continue the life of existing groups as several related units of the same movement, and would take steps to achieve a greater expression of unity in these groups. We would also seek to provide more united efforts, enlarging the campus ministry and sharing the outreach to the various divisions and sections of campus life (e.g., graduate and professional schools, married students, faculty, etc.). (See IV. Interpretations, A. 2; C. D. Pages 19ff.).

(4) *Metropolitan Campus*

In creating a fellowship for the metropolitan campus with its preponderance of commuting students, or in the metropolitan area with several colleges or universities, various patterns may well develop. In some instances this may mean the development of U.C.C.F. groups meeting in churches near the campus or in churches in home communities. This may mean strengthening college groups in various local churches and intensifying united efforts among these groups in the various geographical sections of the city. (See IV. Interpretations, A. 3; C, D, E. Pages 19ff.).

(b) MEMBERSHIP

Membership includes students, both graduate and undergraduate, faculty, campus ministry staff and other members of the campus community who are members of the sponsoring communions and who elect to share in the life of the U.C.C.F. Membership also includes any other members of the campus community who, knowing the basis and aims of the U.C.C.F., desire to participate in its fellowship.

(c) STEWARDSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

It is recognized that the stewardship responsibility for members of the U.C.C.F. is in:

(1) the life and work of the local congregations and in the total stewardship program of the communions,

- (2) The ongoing program and local budget of the U.C.C.F.,
- (3) the ecumenical involvement of the U.C.C.F. through the United Student Christian Council and the World's Student Christian Federation.
- (4) special projects of the U.C.C.F.

II. Proposals for Regional Councils

The regional U.C.C.F. should be composed of local U.C.C.F.'s and other united campus Christian groups which indicate their willingness to affirm the basis and aims of the U.C.C.F. and assume the responsibilities of participation in the Regional Council and in the total program of the U.C.C.F. Continuing denominational groups which indicate their willingness to affirm the basis and aim of the U.C.C.F. and assume the responsibilities of participation in the regional council and in the total program of the U.C.C.F., also shall be members of the regional U.C.C.F.

Each participating unit should be represented in the Regional U.C.C.F.—the plan and number to be determined within the region. In regions where there are existing Student Christian Movements, the U.C.C.F. will seek to relate to the S.C.M. as its regional expression.

It is recommended that Regional U.C.C.F. councils be developed in appropriate areas with consideration of existing structures and conference patterns. The following areas are suggested:

1. Hawaii
2. Alaska
3. Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana
4. Northern California, Nevada, and Utah
5. Southern California and Arizona
6. New Mexico
7. Wyoming and Colorado
8. North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota
9. Nebraska
10. Iowa
11. Kansas
12. Texas and Louisiana
13. Oklahoma and Arkansas
14. Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia and Florida
15. Missouri
16. Kentucky and Tennessee
17. Illinois
18. Wisconsin
19. Indiana

20. Michigan
21. Ohio
22. North Carolina and South Carolina
23. Virginia and southern West Virginia
24. New Jersey, Delaware, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Maryland and northern West Virginia
25. New York
26. Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine.

Appendix

Article II—Aim and Basis (from Constitution and By-Laws of the National Student Christian Federation)

The National Student Christian Federation, as a servant of Jesus Christ and His Church, and as an instrument of its member movements, is a means whereby students may corporately and individually bear witness of Christ and His Church to each other, the churches, the university and the world. To this end, the National Student Christian Federation seeks to stimulate, to strengthen and increasingly to unite the student Christian movements in a corporate life of study, work, and worship, and to foster campus Christian community.

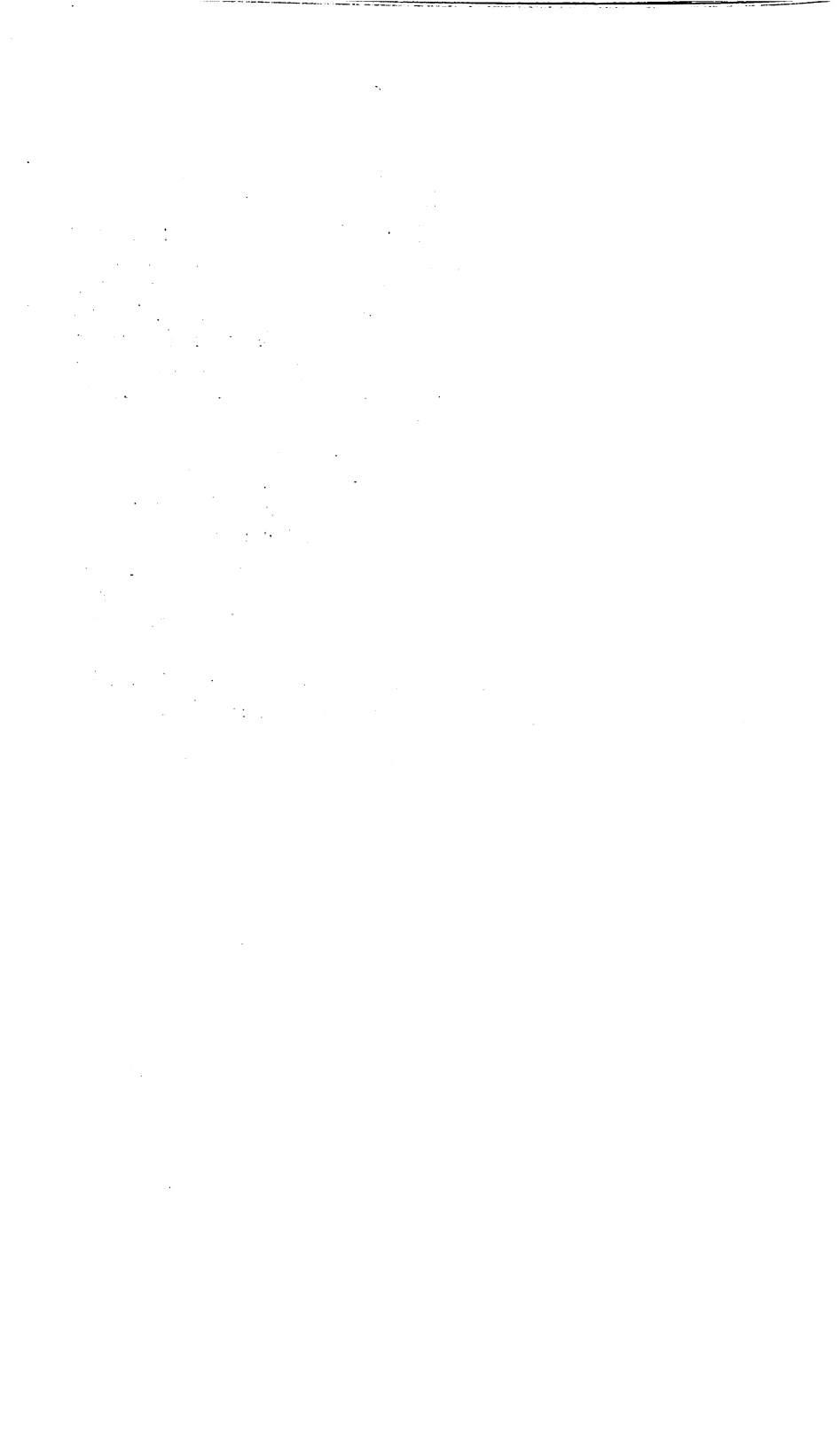
—in relation to the church, N.S.C.F. shall work for the renewal, mission, and unity of the church, leading all students to active and responsible participation in a particular congregation of the Church, in personal commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour.

—in relation to the academic world, N.S.C.F. shall work for the acceptance of the Lordship of Christ in the vocation of the student, and an understanding of the meaning of redemption in all aspects of the life of the academic world.

—in relation to the world and its variety of communities, N.S.C.F. shall challenge all students to discern in the political, social, economic and racial tensions and changes of the times, the judging and redeeming activity of God and thus, to seek God's will for their participation in the life of the world, beginning with the communities in which students live.

The basis of N.S.C.F. is the faith, attested by the Holy Scriptures and affirmed in the confessions and life of the church, that God incarnate in Jesus Christ and present in the Holy Spirit wills to reconcile men to Himself, and that He is acting in history, creating, judging and redeeming. His people are called to serve Him, and, therefore, the student Christian movements are impelled to proclaim the Gospel in the academic community.

The Federation shall be the body through which its constituent organizations maintain their membership in the World's Student Christian Federation.



IV. INTERPRETATIONS OF THE ARTICLES OF UNION

In response to questions and requests for elaboration of the "merger plans" as understood by the Merger Planning Committee, the following interpretations have been prepared by the Committee. It is recognized that fully defined practice on many matters will develop in the merging of the movements and through the leadership of students and their advisers in the new united movement. The committee members are happy to record here their own understanding of the proposals. For such guidance as they may give to actual merger of the movements, questions are raised for discussion at a number of points in these interpretations. The Committee is fully aware that some matters will need further study and that other interpretations may be forthcoming. *The Committee invites comments and suggestions on these interpretations as well as upon the articles of merger themselves.*

A. LOCAL ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE OF UCCF

Much speculation and many questions have been focused upon the previous "plan of merger" and its structural implications for the many varieties of campuses in the United States. The Committee has stated in the merger proposals its conviction that the development of campus patterns must be quite flexible, varying with the demands of campus life on the particular campus in question. From experience with a wide variety of campus programs, there comes the suggestion of three major variations of local organization patterns.

1. *The United Student Christian Association (U.S.C.A.)*

On most smaller campuses the Christian students and faculty think and act most creatively about the voluntary expressions of their Christian life when they do so in one campus fellowship. Most small campuses cannot afford to be torn into many segments by imposed denominational expressions without doing irreparable damage to the total Christian life of the campus community. The Merger Planning Committee hopes and expects that the U.S.C.A. will be strengthened as a united on-campus group by its relationship to the intercollegiate program of the United Campus Christian Fellowship. It is recognized that the U.S.C.A. will probably want to maintain other intercollegiate ties which will help relate students to other student Christian movements. Within the U.S.C.A., or in churches near the campus, there may emerge under U.S.C.A. initiative programs and meetings aimed at giving students a more meaningful relation to ongoing life of their own communions. At some of the growing campuses, with student body enrollments of 2000-4000 students, it may be possible for these

parent communions (and others not involved through their students in the U.C.C.F.) to unite their resources to provide a single counselor or campus minister for all.

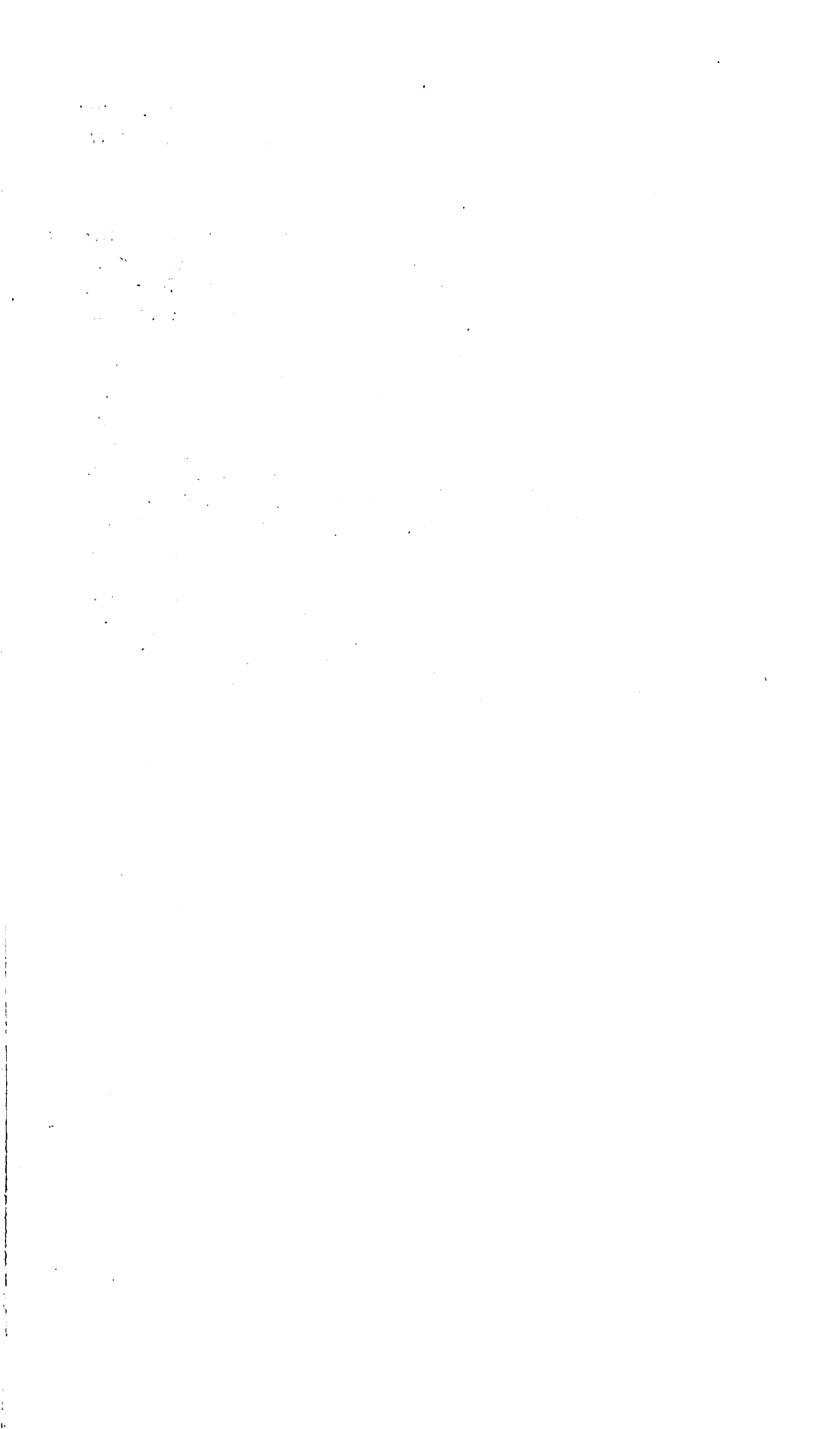
2. *The Large Campus U.C.C.F.*

In large state and private universities where several student fellowships of the merging movements now exist, an attempt would be made to develop a campus-wide U.C.C.F. with multiple units. In recent years it has become apparent that the mammoth university campus today defies any single unit approach. Seldom do all the students related to the program of any communion find themselves in one face-to-face group. Study groups, units of campus and community service, students and faculty gathered in corporate worship are scattered across the length and breadth of the campus, and crowd each week's calendar of scheduled meetings. The Merger Planning Committee does not anticipate one great monolithic fellowship on these campuses. It does believe that a truly united fellowship would allow for even greater variations of groups and experiences which may emerge in response to student needs and the concerns of the denomination, while reducing the duplication and frustration that grows out of unrelated and sometimes competitive efforts. The Committee believes that there is much exploration to be done through fellowship, concerned with specific academic disciplines, vocational interests, as well as married student, graduate student and faculty-student groups, residence unit discussions, etc.

We are aware that the present campus fellowships already draw students from many communions other than their sponsoring denominations. Many of the campus units would, of course, continue with their present program, conscious of the wider fellowship in which they share. Careful coordination through student staff and "advisory board" councils will be required for these large campus efforts. The Committee anticipates that there will be a growing awareness of the one U.C.C.F. on these campuses.

3. *The Metropolitan Campus*

While many "large university" campuses are to be found in metropolitan areas, the "metropolitan campus" presents a special problem, and to date few satisfactory patterns for an effective ministry are evident. The commuting student population conditions all campus experience, and the solution for reaching these transient students seems to lie in the fullest possible cooperation of both campus and "home church" ministry. Varied opportunities to participate in the campus program are essential—with major efforts required to reach into such natural divisions of campus life (by specific academic disciplines, social and activity groupings, etc.) as may be found. Experi-



ence in cooperative work shows that a united campus fellowship enhances the opportunity to reach into campus life along these lines. Cooperation among several churches in communities where students live will facilitate the special ministry to college students and supplement their campus experiences.

It is the hope of the Merger Planning Committee that each campus and community will begin with an open and honest assessment of both needs and resources, and so relate the two that the emergent U.C.C.F. will become truly an instrument for the proclamation of the Gospel.

B. INTERCOLLEGIATE U.C.C.F. STRUCTURE

The life of the U.C.C.F. is to be most fully expressed in local situations. However, it is a common feeling that this local life must be enriched by outside sources if it is truly to grow and flourish in the fulfillment of its mission. Therefore, U.C.C.F. also would find expression in an intercollegiate movement with emphasis on regional activity.

It is our conviction that the regional expression of the U.C.C.F. (where there does not already exist wider organic unity at a regional level) is justified on a variety of bases. Two among these are:

1. Regional conferences may provide larger ecumenical experiences of fellowship and study than can be realized on local campuses.
2. Leadership training, especially in Bible study and also all other concerns of the Life and Mission of the Church, may be most effectively carried out on a regional basis.

It is inevitable that such experiences will force us to bring judgment upon our role as students in the life of the Church and will therefore lead us to a realization of the Gospel demand for unity.

The Articles of Union propose representative regional and national councils whereby students, faculty and staff may share in the responsible life of a total movement, and be related to other student Christian movements both in the U.S.A. and throughout the world. We strongly emphasize that the basic motivation for U.C.C.F. expression on any level must be a sense of mission that unavoidably drives us into functional and structural implementation. Therefore, it is suggested that any regional U.C.C.F. development might be more effectively realized on the basis of *provisional* articles of operation rather than on a comprehensive constitutional document. We further urge that those interested in developing regional U.C.C.F.'s first seek to develop a variety of common experiences in conferences, confrontations, work projects, inter-campus visitations, etc.



C. ROLE OF FACULTY, GRADUATE, AND UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS WITHIN U.C.C.F.

A problem which the United Campus Christian Fellowship will be facing in the university is relating itself to the divisions found within the university community, i.e., the undergraduate and graduate student, and the faculty. These separate areas of interest and involvement in the university will in many instances necessitate separate programming in the life and work of the U.C.C.F. However, this does not mean that the separate programs of the U.C.C.F. movement are unrelated.

It is of particular importance that faculty members find themselves sharing with students in a role other than that of adviser or visiting speaker. There should be many opportunities to share in a common study of the Scriptures, in worship, in searching out the truth that belongs to the disciplines of the academic life and to the Christian heritage which both faculty and students share. Students or faculty should discover that they can be related in exciting and educationally profitable ways through such common, prayerful study. As large universities grow and provide fewer opportunities for students and faculty to come to know one another in this personal way, the U.C.C.F. must develop this aspect of its life.

Graduate students should be given the opportunity to share in carefully selected studies of Christian faith and life. Separate units of the U.C.C.F. may develop within professional schools. Some graduate students may want to participate in the undergraduate program. Although different groups may have separate programs, it is important that the groups on campus realize their common involvement in the U.C.C.F. and also the necessity for joint effort in fulfillment of the Church's mission to the university.

D. RELATIONSHIP TO WORKING YOUNG ADULTS

We recognize that in some churches programs include students, older youth who are not students, and young people who are involved in the Senior High Youth Fellowship. We suggest the following procedures which might be adapted to each particular situation:

1. Where there are enough young people in each group, either in the particular church, or in churches of the participating communions in a given geographic area, it is preferable to have three distinct Fellowship organizations; i.e., U.C.C.F., Young Adult Fellowship and Youth Fellowship.

2. Where there are not enough students or working young adults to organize a separate Fellowship for each, a joint Fellowship might be organized which would include those from both groups, college student and young adult. The college or university students should



also be encouraged to participate in some other phases of the life of U.C.C.F. through U.C.C.F. activities on campus, attendance at U.C.C.F. conferences, use of study materials, etc.

3. When students, working young adults, and senior high school young people are all included in the same Fellowship organization, it is advisable that each group be represented in program planning by members of their own group, e.g., the Youth Fellowship should be represented by active Youth Fellowship members and not by students.

The above suggestions are not meant to imply that students, working young adults, and senior high Youth Fellowship members should be denied opportunities to meet together and share in common experiences of worship, discussion, action and service in the church. Even though the most meaningful experiences are likely to focus around their separate functions, cooperative and united experiences can be most enriching for those in all three groups and should also be provided in the ongoing program of the *local church* to which they are related. Opportunities for useful confrontation across these experiences and age lines may be found through occasional meetings at regional or national levels.

E. ROLE OF STAFF

The role of the local staff in the U.C.C.F. is conceived in much the same manner as that of campus pastors related to the movements that are now considering merger into the U.C.C.F. Some of the characteristics of the pastor in this role are as follows:

He will be equipped and ready to be involved in the central task of the campus community—scholarship and education—engaging in the corporate search for truth and the sharing of knowledge. He will assist the Christian community in the confrontation of the college or university with the gospel of Jesus Christ. He will be open to the contributions which the university may make to the continuing task of the Church in the re-definition of its life and role within the world.

He will be available as a minister serving all who seek the pastoral and counseling services of the Church, and seeking out students and faculty for whom he is responsible.

He will *not* be merely the “director” or the “manager” of the U.C.C.F. with all of his ministry being limited to the organized life of the U.C.C.F. He will be available, however, to serve as staff coordinator and administrative secretary for the U.C.C.F., counseling with U.C.C.F.’s leadership and joining in the execution of the work of the U.C.C.F.

He will serve as a representative of all the participating communions and the U.C.C.F. in the ministry of the church to the campus.



As the U.C.C.F. develops it is expected that it will produce personnel standards and procedures, using as a beginning basis existing policies of the merging movements and communions. In locating, employing, supporting and supervising staff the following is indicated in the Articles of Union (page 13, Proposals for Administration): "It is recognized that the U.C.C.F. cannot provide for the organic union of the boards and committees to which the communions have assigned responsibility for the provision of budget, staff and facilities for a campus ministry. It is recommended, however, that:

"(a) The communions whose movements are being merged in U.C.C.F. should take steps toward local coordinative committees, composed of students, faculty and board representatives, which would approve personnel being called for each participating group, appoint a staff chairman and counsel and guide the development of staff resources in the interests of a group ministry of the U.C.C.F."

The Committee recognizes that on some campuses there may be no immediate possibility, or perhaps need, for the employment of campus ministers. In such instances the Council recommends that a local coordinative committee (as described above) be formed to pool whatever resources of staff services and facilities may be available, on a part-time volunteer basis. As need for more staff services arises, and as ability to provide such services becomes evident, such a committee can be the instrument through which participating communions and the U.C.C.F. together may take the necessary steps to secure needed personnel and supporting services. Where local church pastors now render voluntary campus services, budgets may be developed which provide for specially trained part- or full-time campus ministry staff.

On large campuses, where several staffed centers now exist, the local coordinative committee would be the channel through which the staff may participate together in a group ministry to the campus. Such a committee on the large campus should provide for the common approval of new personnel as they are added to the coordinated staff. The Committee should explore ways to deploy personnel and develop such job descriptions as may be needed to execute the work of U.C.C.F. As a truly united, organic movement, its staff will work in various ways in all sections of the campus and its life to minister to the needs of the campus community.

The Committee believes it is very important to stress that these local coordinative committees must be representative of students and faculty and of the participating communions, including boards and agencies charged with responsibility for campus ministry, as well as the congregations which visibly manifest the communions locally. These provisions will assure that both the church and the university are adequately repre-

sented. The U.C.C.F. must continue to become more fully a movement where such involvement and confrontation of church and university are central to its life and experience.

F. RELATION OF U.C.C.F. TO PARENT COMMUNIONS

The students and staff members of the U.C.C.F. "Merger Planning Committee" are determined that the U.C.C.F. shall be a church-related movement on the campus. We do not have any intention of duplicating the YMCA-YWCA type of independent student movement. Critics of the U.C.C.F. proposal have also raised the analogy of Christian Endeavor. Many communions ceased their support of the Christian Endeavor movement because they felt the C.E. was not responsible enough to the respective denominations. Responsible two-way relationships will be preserved at every point, not simply because guarantees are written into the constitution, but because U.C.C.F. has emerged from the united interests and desires of responsible churchmen who desire nothing so much as to help the churches carry forward a major missionary task.

The U.C.C.F. locally will not be a program replacing the efforts of local churches. *The U.C.C.F. will be the total program for students of the local churches.* The U.C.C.F. will be as responsible for those aspects of the program which are carried out in the local, e.g., instruction classes, Sunday worship, benevolence and missionary study, stewardship, as it is for those developed on campus in the name of the united program.

The previous "Plan of Merger" proposed that:

"A Commission shall be established within the *National Council* of the U.C.C.F., composed of members appointed by the participating communions, and members appointed by the U.C.C.F. This Commission would be charged with the responsibility for the involvement of the U.C.C.F. within the life and work of the participating communions and also shall be the agency through which the parent communions shall counsel with the U.C.C.F."

It is quite possible that such Commissions would also exist on the state or regional level. The Commissions would be responsible for such things as:

- keeping the U.C.C.F. informed of denominational programs in which some students or the whole U.C.C.F. might share.
- keeping the denominations at every level informed of U.C.C.F. program and activities, making necessary clearances.
- selecting representatives of the U.C.C.F. to denominational boards, committees, youth conferences, planning commissions, etc. (Denominational boards could of course co-opt their own student representatives, but would be requested to do so through this Commission in order to have official student movement representation.)

While the U.C.C.F. will be responsible for a ministry to all students expressing preference for any of the cooperating communions, *its local membership will be defined by participation*. There will be no one way of joining the U.C.C.F. A student may join by placing an affiliate or regular membership in the sponsoring church of his choice in the college community, or through sharing in the program. The U.C.C.F. aims to be an open community. In every case responsible membership in one of the congregations in the college town will be considered a major objective of the U.C.C.F. program. At the same time the U.C.C.F. will cultivate actively the support and interest of these congregations, helping them to recognize the U.C.C.F. as their own fellowship and ministry.

The nature of "student" or "affiliate" membership in the college-town churches is an open question needing consideration. This much seems clear: A student expresses his membership in the church not only by joining in the worship of a specific congregation, but also by participation actively in the life of the U.C.C.F. as a major expression of that membership. The U.C.C.F. is the "college department" or the "college program" for students in the college-town churches.

An unresolved question is the nature of the financial stewardship program of the U.C.C.F. While U.C.C.F. cannot preserve its integrity as a genuine student-directed movement unless it has some freedom to raise funds among students for its program, at the same time a responsible church relation calls the U.C.C.F. to undertake seriously a Christian stewardship program rooted in the responsibilities of church membership. The stewardship program of the U.C.C.F. would attempt to teach the habit of regular and proportionate giving to the church, including the U.C.C.F.

The U.C.C.F. is based on the conviction that the Church is called to minister to the needs of college and university students wherever they may be found. As the name *United Campus Christian Fellowship* implies, most of the work will be campus-centered. But the U.C.C.F. hopes to establish itself as a new kind of movement precisely because it recognizes its mutual involvement with and its dependence upon the active support of pastors and lay people across the country. An effective student movement will not be possible in the current American scene without the active cooperation and support of all of the churches. From its beginning the UCCF must search for more adequate relationships and more satisfying and responsible ways of relating students to the churches at home, in the college town, and in the communities to which students will go upon graduation. Only insofar as the UCCF is of the Church can it truly be said that it is a *United Campus Christian Fellowship*, seeking to aid the churches in fulfilling their responsibilities on the campuses of our colleges and universities.

V. AREAS FOR STUDY AND DISCUSSION

The following five areas have been pointed up for study and discussion by the Merger Planning Committee. They have been selected as problem areas which are particularly relevant as a result of the study and discussion which took place during the past year in the negotiating movements. They are available from movement offices. Other supplementary studies have been prepared separately by several of the negotiating movements. Groups without campus pastors wanting elementary program suggestions may be interested in a mimeographed study guide entitled *Unity and Witness* by Bill Barr, Christian Board of Publication, St. Louis 3, Mo. (50c)

Individual or group study may be carried out on the problem areas listed below. We would encourage local fellowships of the merging movements to conduct some of the studies within their own groups. We would also advise that whenever possible efforts be made to join in study and discussion of these problems with representative groups of students from the merging movements and from other movements.

Resource materials listed are limited to those that have been found especially useful in student discussions.

I. Our Involvement in the University

If the university is a community searching for truth, what is the implication of our involvement as a community of Christian students in this search?

What would a sense of involvement say about the goals of education, study practices, participation in campus affairs, etc.?

REFERENCES

Witness to the Truth—United Student Christian Council, 257 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y. (10c)

Ecumenical Conversations, Unit 2—United Student Christian Council, 257 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N. Y. (10c)

**The University and the Church*—Harold K. Schilling (25c, 10 copies \$2.00)

**The Church and the University*—Jacques De Senarclens (15c, 10 copies \$1.00)

**The Role of the Church in Higher Education*—Harold K. Schilling (10c, 12 copies \$1.00)

*The above three booklets are available from U.S.F. & D.C.C.L., United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. (One copy of each, in a set of three, 45c per set; ten sets, \$4.00)

2. Our Involvement in the World Struggle

Is the struggle for justice, freedom and economic development among the peoples of the world the truly significant fact of our time?

Is this struggle understood and appreciated by American students?

What is the role of the Christian community in interpreting this struggle and our involvement in it?

REFERENCES

The Christian Student and The World Struggle—J. Robert Nelson, U.S.C.C. (out of print), 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Christ and Culture—H. Richard Niebuhr—Harpers, New York

Encounter With Revolution—Richard Shaull—U.S.C.C., 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. (\$1.00)

Called in Revolution—Bruce Morgan—Friendship Press, New York, N. Y. (\$1.00)

3. Our Involvement in the Life and Mission of the Church

What is the meaning of the world mission of the church to Christian students?

Is the mission of the Church in the world the same as the mission to the campus?

Does the mission of the Church involve us in restudying the structure of the Church?

Is it imperative for the Church to be united in order to understand and fulfill its mission?

REFERENCES

The Significance of the Church—Robert McAfee Brown—Westminster Press, Philadelphia, Pa. (\$1.00)

Encounter With Revolution—Richard Shaull—United Student Christian Council, 257 Fourth Avenue, New York, 10, N. Y. (paper edition \$1.25)

Life and Mission of the Church materials to be published by W.S.C.F., U.S.C.C. and its member movements

A Faith for the Nations—Charles Forman, Westminster Press, Philadelphia, Pa. (\$1.00)

4. Unity and Witness on the Campus

What is the role of your student Christian movement as an expression and channel of the Church in the life of the university or college?

What is the relation between unity and more effective witness?

How can we better express our unity in Christ with other student Christian movements on the campus?

REFERENCES

- The Household of God*—Leslie Newbigin—Friendship Press, New York, N. Y. (\$2.75)
- Ecumenical Conversations for Students*, United Student Christian Council, 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.
- Chosen Peoples*—Denis Baly—United Student Christian Council, 257 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.
- Christian Outreach on the Campus*—Bill Swing—United Student Fellowship, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis 3, Mo. (5c)

5. Backgrounds of UCCF Communion

Do you agree with Albert Outler's thesis (see bibliography below) that we can find unity only as we explore our own traditions to the point of discovering our common faith?

What contributions can the heritage of your communion make to a united Church or a united student movement?

Are there differences in the beliefs and practices of our communions that may create problems for a merged student movement?

REFERENCES

- The Christian Tradition and the Unity We Seek*—Albert Outler—Oxford University Press, New York, 1957—(\$3.25)
- The Nature of the Unity We Seek*—Paul Minear—Bethany Press, St. Louis, Mo. 1958—(\$4.00)
- Christian Unity in North America*—J. Robert Nelson, ed.—Bethany Press, St. Louis, Mo. 1958—(3.50)
- A Guide to Christian Unity*—George L. Hunt—Bethany Press, St. Louis, Mo. 1958—(\$1.00)
- Brief History of the Presbyterians*—L. A. Loetscher (75c)
- Brief Statement of the Reformed Faith*—Westminster Book Store, Witherspoon Bldg., Philadelphia 7, Pa. (\$5.00 for a hundred copies)
- These Evangelical United Brethren*—Paul H. Eller—The Otterbein Press, Dayton, Ohio (\$1.75)
- Our Church*—C. L. Allen and Millard J. Miller—The Otterbein Press, Dayton, Ohio (25c)
- What We Believe*—A Statement of the Board of Bishops—The Otterbein Press, Dayton, Ohio (15c)
- Doctrine and Thought of Disciples of Christ*—Howard Short—Christian Board of Publication, St. Louis 3, Mo. (75)
- Whence and Whither Disciples of Christ*—Christian Board of Publication St. Louis 3, Mo. (75c)

Pilgrimage Toward Unity—description of history, life and work of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church—United Church of Christ, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

The Church's Life—A Study Guide for the Laity on the Church and the Bible—Roger Hazleton and Robert V. Moss, Jr.—United Church of Christ, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. (25c, 15 or more 20c each)

Some Opportunities for the United Church of Christ—Elmer J. F. Arndt—study of theological basis for structure and order in the corporate life of the church. *Limited quantity available free through U.S.F.*



VI. A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MERGER NEGOTIATIONS

These Proposed Articles of Union are the product of a series of meetings which have been attended by representatives of four student Christian movements: Disciples Student Fellowship, Evangelical United Brethren Student Fellowship, United Student Fellowship, and the Westminster Student Fellowship (Presbyterian, U.S.A.).

The series of meetings were as follows:

Consultation held November 11-13 1955, in Chicago, Illinois

Meeting of representative university pastors of the negotiating movements, February 7, 1956, Cincinnati, Ohio

Meeting of "senior representatives" of the sponsoring communions of the negotiating movements, March 23, 1956, Chicago, Illinois

Meeting of the Steering Committee, representing the negotiating movements, March 23-24, 1956, Chicago, Illinois

Second Consultation held November 2-4, 1956, in Chicago, Illinois

Meetings of the Merger Negotiating Committee, May, 1957, Columbus, Ohio; September 1957, Indianapolis, Indiana; February, 1958, Indianapolis; October, 1958, Chicago, Illinois. At this latter meeting the name of the committee was changed to Merger Planning Committee, describing more adequately its new function.

These Articles of Union were prepared at the February, 1959 meeting of the Merger Planning Committee.

VII. CALENDAR

1959—August/September—Meetings of the national councils/assemblies of the negotiating movements. (Consideration of the Articles of Union)

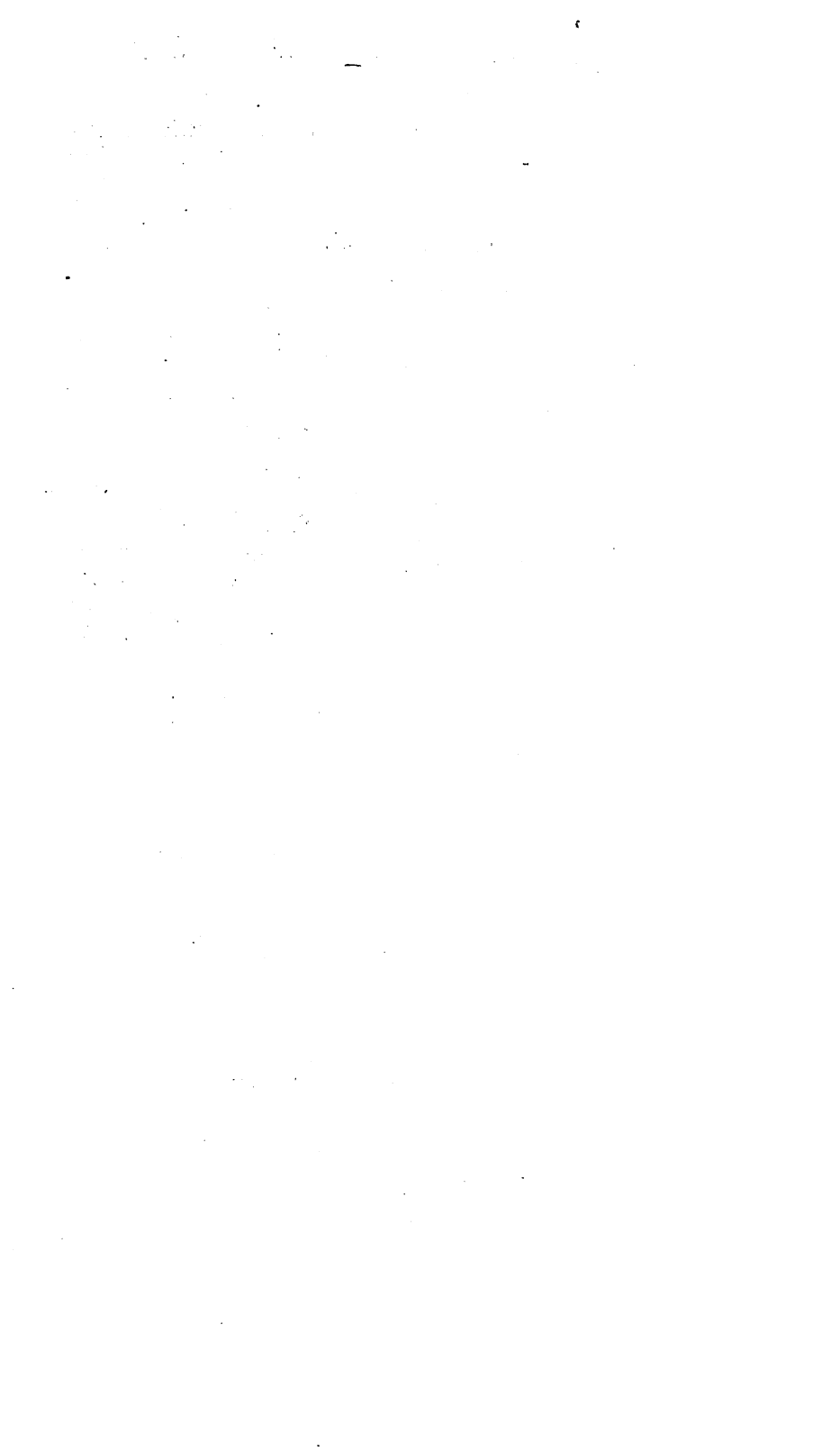
—September 3-5—Joint meeting of the executive committees of the negotiating movements.

—October 2-4 and

1960—February 19-21—Meetings of the Merger Planning Committee (Provisional Executive Committee) to complete preparations for the Uniting Assembly.

—August 21-23—Pre-Assembly Joint Executive Committee Meeting

—August 23-30—Proposed/Conference and Uniting Assembly



VIII. MEMBERSHIP OF THE MERGER PLANNING COMMITTEE

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