

GA-1926
SPIRIT OF ACTIVE LISTENING
(Sense-of-the-Assembly)

WHEREAS, we all share a common humanity; and

WHEREAS, Romans 14 tells us “If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living. You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God’s judgement seat.”; and

WHEREAS, when discussing difficult issues, all voices need to be heard; and

WHEREAS, diverse opinions challenge and broaden our own perspectives on issues that matter to us; and

WHEREAS, current disagreements over issues such as gun control, immigration, health care, and civil rights, are particularly divisive, with people not listening to one another; and

WHEREAS, even difficult discussions within the church are often one-sided and divisive; and

WHEREAS, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is “a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world” and “part of the one body of Christ” and “we welcome all to the Lord’s Table as God welcomed us” as we understand that “all” means all; and

WHEREAS, we realize the vision of this church is to be a faithful, growing church, that demonstrates true community as proclaimed in Micah 6:8; and

WHEREAS, we confess a mission of “service to all people”, rejoice in “God’s covenant of love, which binds us to God and to one another”, and recognize that “through baptism into Christ we are made one with the whole people of God” and “In the communion of the Holy Spirit we are joined together in discipleship”;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the United States and Canada, meeting in Des Moines, Iowa, July 20-24, 2019, call upon the many expressions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) to be a safe place to have difficult conversations; and

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the church be called to Hear and Listen to all voices present as we respect our brothers and sisters in faith, free of judgement and preconceived notions, recognizing and accepting our common humanity.

General Youth Council

**The General Board recommends that the General Assembly ADOPT GA-1926.
(Discussion Time: 12 minutes)**