The following resolution was approved by the delegates at a plenary of the Thirty-Second General Synod.

A RESOLUTION ON ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST AND

THE IGLESIA EVANGELICA UNIDA DE PUERTO RICO

A Prudential Resolution

WHEREAS, the gospel of Jesus Christ unites the followers of Christ in a single community of faith and compels us to make our unity visible so “that the world may believe…” John 17:21;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the Iglesia Evangelica Unida de Puerto Rico are both united and uniting churches with multiple denominational streams which identify them and shape their Christian self-understanding;

WHEREAS, the Iglesia Evangelica Unida de Puerto Rico and the United Church of Christ have common commitment to the visible unity of the church of Jesus Christ and to the one ecumenical movement;

WHEREAS, the Iglesia Evangelica Unida de Puerto Rico and the United Church of Christ have common Congregational and Reformed heritage and sit in common witness to mission, worship, theological conversation and commitment to justice;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the Iglesia Evangelica Unida de Puerto Rico engaged in dialogue and have identified similarities and differences that can commonly strengthen who they are and their witness in North America as united and uniting churches;

WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the Iglesia Evangelica Unida de Puerto Rico were one church for fifteen years, sharing ministry to the world together and united in Christ’s love;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Thirty Second General Synod of the United Church of Christ recognizes the Iglesia Evangelica Unida de Puerto Rico as an ecumenical partner;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Thirty Second General Synod of the United Church of Christ commits to forming an ecumenical partnership committee with the Iglesia Evangelica Unida de Puerto Rico;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the ecumenical partnership committee brings back to the Thirty Third General Synod recommendations for further steps and activities to bring the two communions to the closest possible relationship while remaining independent churches.

FUNDING

The funding for the implementation of the Resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available

IMPLEMENTATION
The Officers of the Church, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.