

most spiritually productive efforts that can be made at this time and we question the discernment of those directing such affairs and the direction that the Pastors of Zion seems to be taking in general. We are concerned that important discipleship issues and efforts to feed the flock are being overlooked for a return to a traditional form at any cost; and

**Whereas**, we believe that continued efforts along these ends, coupled with an overall lack of spiritual direction for the independent branches is causing the Pastors of Zion as a whole to become irrelevant in the minds of many saints. In effect, they are beginning to be perceived as just another leadership group that is trying to guide the saints along organizational ends, thus removing themselves as a viable entity to address the real problems our people are facing;

**Therefore Be It Resolved**, that the Pastors of Zion and Joint Conference Committee suspend all planning for a joint conference of restoration branches until such a time that common consent can be achieved. We also request that the men of the various leadership organizations above refrain from holding discussions with the Community of Christ as if they represent the saints of the restoration branches in general. In the meantime, we encourage the Pastors of Zion to pursue goals that would bring about a greater degree of righteousness and unity among the saints – in building bridges of trust between the independent branches. Furthermore, we encourage the chairman of the Pastors of Zion and all saints everywhere to prayerfully consider and discern the deeper spiritual problems facing the saints that mere organizational initiatives will not remedy. We encourage the Pastors of Zion to identify ways to provide opportunity for worship, fellowship, common labor, and mutual growth among the independent branches (as referenced in the statement of purpose for the Pastors of Zion). We believe that these are crucial and necessary preparatory steps that will help to create an environment of trust between the independent branches before we could ever consider gathering in legislative or deliberative assemblies.