

## 1979 Restated Objectives

At its 1979 annual meeting, The Hymn Society adopted new constitutional language for its aims.

As stated in the original Constitution, adopted on January 28, 1922

2. Object. The object of the society shall be to cultivate the devout use of better Christian hymns and hymn-tunes; to encourage the writing and publishing of hymns that express the temper of modern Christian life and thought, and also of hymn-tunes of genuine musical merit and best adapted to congregational singing; to secure the union of hymn and tunes that are closely related in emotional content and worshipful significance; to promote the collection of hymnodic data, new and old, to encourage research and stimulate full discussion and the special preparation of addresses, articles and reviews upon subjects hymnodic; to the end that there may be improvement and greater inspiration in these hymnodic and musical modes of praise and prayer in the worship of God.

As adopted on April 24, 1979:

### Article II, Objectives

The objectives of the Society shall be:

1. to cultivate vital congregational singing;
2. to encourage the writing and publishing of hymns and hymn tunes;
3. to express through congregational song the spirit and needs of contemporary life and thought;
4. to promote the collection of hymnic data;
5. to encourage research, discussion, and the preparation and dissemination of addresses, articles, books, and audio-visual material upon hymnic subjects;

to the end that there may be improvement and greater inspiration in these modes of praise and prayer in the worship of God.

The elimination of the specification “Christian” had been discussed and advised by the Sub-Committee on Planning at its meeting on May, 7, 1976:

It was recommended that the statement of the Society’s objectives be reworded at the earliest possible time, to delete the words “the better Christian” in the first half of the first sentence, and the word “Christian” in the second half of that sentence. The intent of these changes is to encourage the interest and participation of Jewish people and groups in the Society.

The same discussion had recommended adding the words “and in Canada” to Article IV, “Chapters,” but that point seems to have been lost in the intervening years.