

ELCA Commitment to Peacemaking

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America social statement “Church in Society: A Lutheran Perspective,” calls for the church to engage in moral deliberations regarding governmental policy, and to “discern when to support and when to confront society’s cultural patterns, values, and powers”; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America social statement “For Peace in God’s World,” provides a vision of the vocation of the church as an institution of peacemaking in the name of Jesus; and

WHEREAS, the vocation of the congregation includes “working for earthly peace,” as expressed in this social statement; and

WHEREAS, the vocation of the individual member of a congregation includes serving as a representative of Jesus’ vision of peace for persons and for the world that God loves; and

WHEREAS, the vocation of peacemaking is both simple in its radical call and challenging in its implementation in a world complicated by forces unaligned with Jesus’ vision; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Minneapolis Area Synod (MAS) in Assembly recommit to its work as a synod that seeks peace and pursues it; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Office of the Bishop of the MAS send a pastoral letter to the congregations that encourages use of the ELCA resources, including “For Peace in God’s World” and the accompanying leader’s and participant’s guides, for study in adult and youth programming within the congregations of the synod to equip congregational members to be more effective in their faith-filled response for the sake of the world.

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