

Summary Report of 2020 Resolutions

RC2020-01 Representation of Ministers of Word and Service in Synod Bodies

In light of recent changes for Ministers of Word and Service on a national level of the ELCA, this resolution asks that the MAS Nominating Committee make every effort to ensure representation of Ministers of Word and Service in all arenas of church leadership, and that the Office of the Bishop make every effort to ensure similar representation in appointed positions of the synod.

RC2020-02 Ministry with and in Support of the Deaf Culture

This resolution asks that the Unite Table of MAS work with Bethel and Bread of Life Deaf congregations to educate all congregations of the MAS about Deaf culture, as well as opportunities to support Deaf ministry nationally and internationally. It further asks that the MAS communications staff make all publicly shared videos more accessible to the Deaf culture before being shared.

RC2020-03 Action Regarding Climate Justice

In the light of the impact of climate change and its link to other forms of injustice, RC2020-3 proposes that congregations of the MAS observe a “Season of Creation” this fall, by taking time for discernment and bold action on climate justice, and by incorporating themes of climate justice in preaching and worship; and further that the MAS EcoFaith Network resource congregations and pastors in discernment and actions on climate justice.

RC2020-04 Conflict-free Equipment Purchases

This resolution calls upon the MAS to join efforts to end the civil war in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) by committing to make future electronics purchases from companies that can trace and audit their supply chains, push for conflict-free minerals legislation, and exercise leadership in industry-wide efforts to help the DRC develop a conflict-free minerals trade.

RC2020-05 The Banning of Nuclear Weapons

This resolution calls upon the Bishop of the MAS to urge Minnesota's elected U.S. Representatives in the Congressional Districts within the boundaries of the synod, as well as U.S. Senators, to lead efforts to convene the world's nine nuclear nations for the purpose of totally eliminating nuclear weapons and ratifying the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

RC2020-06 Sanctuary Synod Status

Citing scriptural and ELCA teaching and action in regard to providing care and equal justice for “the stranger, the alien and the resident alien,” RC2020-06 recommends that the MAS adopt a definition of sanctuary, declare itself a Sanctuary Synod of the ELCA, encourage collaboration to provide congregations with resources for learning and action, and advocate for immigrants in local and state legislatures.