

TAB G

**RESOLUTIONS/
MEMORIALS**

ELCA-SOUTHEASTERN SYNOD RESOLUTION WORKSHEET

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer briefly the three questions below regarding the implications of the resolution, if adopted.

- 1) What is the financial impact of this resolution on our synod budget? If expenditures are required, what are the sources of income anticipated to accomplish the purpose of the resolution? (Section 19e of Assembly Rules of Organization and Procedure states: "If a particular resolution has budgetary implications, the author(s) must consult with the synodical treasurer and should include financial considerations in the resolutions. The treasurer's response must be provided to the Committee on Reference and Counsel. Proposals lacking this documentation will not be considered for action by the assembly.")

- 2) What are the personnel implications within our synod--or churchwide? Who will be responsible for implementation of the resolution?

- 3) How does this resolution enhance and forward the mission of the church and our synod?

Use the following format:

Begin each statement or paragraph describing or explaining the purpose of the resolution with the word **"WHEREAS..."**

Begin the recommended action statement(s) or paragraph(s) with the words **"Therefore be it RESOLVED, that..."** (and, if needed, **"and be it further RESOLVED, that..."**).

FORMAT EXAMPLE:

WHEREAS, _____ ; and

WHEREAS, _____ ; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that

Use the reverse side of this form for the resolution. Mail or fax both sides to the Committee on Reference and Counsel, ELCA-Southeastern Synod, 100 Edgewood Ave. NE, Suite 1600, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303, fax number 404-521-1980, by April 15; or submit to the committee prior to the Friday before assembly (5/28/2010). Resolutions submitted after 5:00 pm on the Friday before the assembly will not be considered unless the issue is of such an immediate and urgent nature that it clearly cannot be postponed until the next assembly. Such resolutions shall be placed on the agenda only after written or electronic submission to the Committee on Reference and Counsel, with a 2/3 vote of the assembly approving consideration.

ELCA-Southeastern Synod Resolution Submittal Form

Please type or print legibly your resolution in the space below. Only one resolution should be included per form. If you have more than one resolution to submit, please copy this form.

Date _____

A Resolution
Concerning _____

Signature of individual submitting the resolution _____

Address and phone number of submitter _____

Southeastern Synod congregation, committee or conference _____
(Or attach signatures of 15 voting members of the Assembly)

Signature of pastor, committee chair, or dean _____

**MEMORIAL TO RESCIND ACTIONS OF THE '09 CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY
RELATED TO THE SOCIAL STATEMENT "Gift and Trust" AND CERTAIN
MINISTRY POLICIES**

WHEREAS, the 2009 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has adopted the social statement, "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust"; and

WHEREAS, in Part IV (lines 620 - 628 in the Pre-Assembly Report) this statement reads: The historic Christian tradition and the Lutheran Confessions have recognized marriage as a covenant between a man and a woman, reflecting Mark 10:6-9: "But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one put asunder." (Jesus here recalls Genesis 1:27; 2:23-24); and

WHEREAS, in Part IV (lines 740 - 744, as amended of the Pre-Assembly Report) it reads: Recognizing that this conclusion differs from the historic Christian tradition and the Lutheran Confessions, some people, though not all, in this church and within the larger Christian community, conclude that marriage is also the appropriate term to use in describing similar benefits, protection, and support for same-gender couples entering into lifelong monogamous relationships; and

WHEREAS, the statement then goes on to treat these two positions and the variants within them as of equal validity, on the basis of the "conscience-bound beliefs" of those who hold them (Part IV, lines 809 - 868 of the Pre-Assembly Report); and

WHEREAS, on this same basis of the "conscience-bound lack of consensus in this church" (lines 452 - 453 of the Report and Recommendation on Ministry Policies in Part V of the Pre-Assembly Report) the resolutions on ministry policies (CA09.05.23 - 24 - 26 & 27) were adopted; and

WHEREAS, neither the Social Statement nor the Recommendation on Ministry Policies present an argument based on Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions and with the aid of sound reason either to reject what is admitted to be the position of the historic Christian tradition and the Lutheran Confessions based on Scripture or to accept a position which is admitted to be contrary to the historic Christian tradition and the Lutheran Confessions; and

WHEREAS, the Confession of Faith of the ELCA (Chapter 2 of the ELCA Constitution) commits the ELCA to accept the canonical Scriptures as the authoritative source and norm of our proclamation, faith and life, and to accept the confessional writings of the Lutheran Church as a true witness of the Gospel and valid interpretations of the faith of the Church; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Synod Assembly memorialize the 2011 Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA as follows: to rescind the decisions of the 2009 Churchwide Assembly in adopting the social statement "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust" and the four Resolutions on Ministry Policies (CA09.05.23 - 24 - 26 & 27) as violations of the Confession of Faith, Chapter 2 of the ELCA Constitution and, therefore, invalid and unbinding upon individual congregations' teaching, ministry and communal life.

Submitted by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Kingsport, TN
Reference and Counsel makes no recommendation.

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING AN INITIATIVE ON HARMONY

WHEREAS, the members of the Southeastern Synod have varied opinions on the sexuality statement and related ministry changes passed at the 2010 Church wide Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the youth of the Southeastern Synod also have varying opinions about these same issues; and

WHEREAS, Ephesians 4:1-6 states: “I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling,⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all;” and

WHEREAS, we the youth, respecting the bound consciences of our peers, continue to remain unified in the Body of Christ; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the members of the 2010 Southeastern Synod Assembly go out and promote unity within the church and their congregations; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that the Synod Council send the Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization (SESLYO) “Harmony Letter” to each and every congregation of this synod by way of congregational council presidents, pastors, and youth directors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that these letters be encouraged to be posted in a public place.

Submitted by SESLYO.

Reference and Counsel recommends adoption.

