



Section E – Resolutions and Memorials

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Resolution A

Living Water Ministries Welcome to All

Whereas the ELCA social statement on human sexuality titled “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust” holds four distinct positions for people of varying bound consciences to coexist, including a position that has resulted in the full inclusion for members of the LGBTQIA+ community in the life and leadership of the church in various contexts and expressions; and

Whereas, the life and work of Jesus Christ often emphasizes the inclusion of marginalized and oppressed people, and the mission statement and core values of Living Water Ministries calls the organization to serve “all of God’s children” and uphold a “Welcome to all”; therefore be it

Resolved, that the North/West Lower Michigan Synod approve of Living Water Ministries entering the process to become a Reconciling in Christ organization which would result in Living Water Ministries discerning and seeking this designation, publicly declaring its intent and ability to provide safe space for all constituents including those who are members of the LGBTQIA+ community, and formally revising policies and procedures as necessary to do so.

Submitted by

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Memorial A

Calling for a Just Transition to 50% Reduction in U.S, Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2030

Whereas, “made in the image of God, we are called to care for the earth as God cares for the earth”, and to “love your neighbors as yourselves” (Luke 10:27); and

Whereas, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reported that in order to avoid further catastrophic consequences of climate change, such as wildfires, hurricanes, heat waves, droughts, ocean acidification, flooding, and species loss, global warming needs to be limited to 1.5 degrees by reducing by 50% the greenhouse gas emissions by 2030; and

Whereas, Indigenous, Black, and People of Color communities impacted by poverty have contributed the least to climate change and are the most impacted by it; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the ELCA memorialize the 2022 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that the ELCA churchwide continues to call upon the leadership of the United States to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% by 2030, generate 100% of its power from clean renewable sources by 2035, and achieve net zero emissions by 2050: and be it further

Resolved, that churchwide encourage congregations and synods to advocate, for a just transition away from greenhouse gases where at least 40% of the governmental funding in the energy sector goes towards projects that directly benefit Indigenous, Black, and People of Color communities impacted by poverty that bear a disproportionate cost of pollution and climate change already; and be it further

Resolved, that the ELCA Churchwide will support these actions through investments in staff, education, tools and resources that equip congregations and Synods to accomplish this goal and leverage knowledge, skills, and experience across the church encouraging rostered leaders and bishops to lift up loving our neighbor in response to the climate emergency through their preaching at least once a month.

Submitted and supported by members of Environmental Stewardship Task Force and others: Pat Vance, Erick Johnson, John Burow, John Schleicher, Ellen Schoepf, Elli Buggeln, Linn Kracht, Laurene Swanson, Paul Busekist, Kim Winchell, Hope Lutheran, Plainwell, Dianna Sherman, Jeanne Spagnoli, Mary R. File, Rick File, Kenna Sieber, Marne Sieber, William G. Vance, David Armstrong, Julie Winklepleck, Susan E. Daniels, Brian Roblyer, Keith Gage, Veronica L. Johnson, Patricia A. Vance, Judy Spiekermann, Patricia Finnegan, Sigrid LaLiberte', St. Peter Lutheran, Battle Creek Rich and Sue Heeres, Susan Callahan, Colleen Kracht, Joyce Jackson, Frank Eglund, Nancy Wozniak, Sarita Collins, George Pendill, Karen Lukowski, Dave Marquette, Barb Marquette, Jacalyn Luke, Faith Lutheran in Okemos, Phyllis Schleicher, Mark Marquardt, Randy Royalty, Lois E. Neves, Ellen Holste, Jon J. Harrison, Mark Kadrofsek, Elaine Harrison, Gwynne Kadrofsek, Brenda Kopf, Gail Barricklow, Ann Mayer, Tamara Heilman, Karen Fraser, Ken J. Schoepf, Marla Holle, Deb Borton-McDonough, Warren Heilman, Cecelia Kramer, Katherine Richardson, Natalie Dingleline, Jack Dingleline, Kathy Mace, Zachary Hereza. Ken Ponds,

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