

The following resolution was adopted by the 2009 Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Assembly during its Spring Session on May 8-9 at the Kellogg Conference Center of Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. "Whereas" clauses are listed as background for voting members. The Assembly votes on "resolved" clauses only.

A Memorial Concerning Human Sexuality

WHEREAS, the Task Force for ELCA Studies in Sexuality has earnestly studied and struggled with these matters for eight years, and their work models and invites mutually respectful dialogue about sexuality throughout this church; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Social Statement powerfully proclaims this church's teachings on trust, love, and service to the neighbor as the proper foundation of sexuality, while honestly recognizing that there is no consensus regarding same-gender relationships or the rostered ministry of people in them; and

WHEREAS, the ELCA Church Council, at its March 2009 meeting, voted by an overwhelming margin to recommend to the 2009 Churchwide Assembly the proposed Social Statement on Human Sexuality, its implementing resolutions, and a Recommendation on Ministry Policies; and

WHEREAS, the Recommendation on Ministry Policies allows a way to maintain a uniform standard and process for candidacy and call throughout this church while respecting the bound consciences of all; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, meeting in Assembly, memorialize the 2009 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to act as follows:

1. To adopt the proposed Social Statement on Human Sexuality and its implementing resolutions, as recommended by the ELCA Church Council.
2. To adopt the four parts of the proposed Recommendation on Ministry Policies, as recommended by the ELCA Church Council.
3. To adopt the following additional implementing resolution of the Social Statement on Human Sexuality: "To direct appropriate churchwide units to develop, in consultation with those most affected, resources for congregations or faith-communities and ministers that

choose to do so to support same-gender relationships by holding them publicly accountable in the exchange of promises of lifelong love and fidelity.”

4. To adopt the following: “Resolved, that the Vocation and Education unit be directed to develop, and the Church Council be directed to approve, procedures for the reception from another Lutheran church-body and for the expedited reinstatement to the roster or to candidacy of those whose rostering was precluded by previous policies on same-gender relationships.”