

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C. SYNOD ASSEMBLY
National Conference Center Lansdowne, Virginia
June 19-20, 2015

Reference & Counsel Number: 2015-007

Secretary's Number:

Title: Racism and the Events in Charleston

Submitted: The Reverend Craig Endicott, the Reverend Karen Brau

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Whereas our sisters and brothers in Christ in Charleston are grieving the deaths of Sharonda Coleman-Singleton, Tywanza Sanders, Ethel Lance, Susie Jackson, Daniel Simmons, Sr., Cynthia Hurd, Myra Thompson, DePayne Middleton Doctor, and Clementa Pinkney; and

Whereas, their murders are yet another manifestation of the systemic evils of racism and gun violence in this country, and

Whereas, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has been ineffective in significantly changing the racism of this church or this country, and

Whereas, the ELCA and its predecessor bodies have often been silent and/or complicit in these systemic evils; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Assembly declares June 21, 2015 as a day of mourning, prayer, contrition, repentance, and contemplation concerning the events in Charleston on June 17th and other evil and violence perpetrated against people of color by white Americans - and, in particular, by white Christians; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Assembly, in order to avoid confusing the causes of racism with the means of racism, calls for a one-month moratorium on statements by its members concerning solutions by advocacy for gun control and/or gun rights; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Assembly encourages its member congregations to place on the agendas for their next congregation council meetings the consideration of this resolution and adopt a resolution of similar content and forward such action(s) to the synod's Racial Equity and Racism

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