Resolution #1 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly

WHEREAS, in 1970 both the Lutheran Church in America and American Lutheran Church in their national conventions voted to ordain women; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) rejoices in these actions of its predecessor church bodies and will recognize the 50th anniversary in 2020 of the ordination of women; and

WHEREAS, we express our profound gratitude for the many and varied ways the gifts of ordained women have advanced God’s mission through this church; and

WHEREAS, the ELCA’s Faith and Society is working on a Social Statement on Women and Justice.¹

WHEREAS, we learned in the research² related to the 45th anniversary of women’s ordination of some progress but also significant disparities and discriminatory experiences for women in the areas of preparation for ministry, all calls for ministry including first calls, mobility, compensation, ministry roles, and debt following seminary education some particularly acute for ordained women of color; therefore, be it the

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly to urge synods and synodical bishops to include celebration and special recognition of ordained women in their 2020 synod assemblies upon the 50th anniversary of authorizing this ordination practice;

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly to urge the seminaries, colleges, campus ministries, outdoor ministry organizations, synods, and congregations of the ELCA, to highlight women preachers, teachers, and speakers throughout 2020 in recognition of the diversity of the gifts the ordination of women has brought to this church;

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly to urge the Office of the Presiding Bishop to develop worship resource materials for the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the ordination of women in the ELCA;

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly to urge congregations throughout the ELCA to participate in the 50th anniversary of the ordination of women in our church through worship services, bible studies and other efforts to celebrate and recognize the importance and contributions of ordained women;

¹ http://elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society~/link.aspx?_id=76B65AF89F3C46F3BFFC5F50CF097A1E&_z=z
² http://search.elca.org/Pages/Results.aspx?k=45th+anniversary+of+women%27s+ordination
RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly to urge 1517 Media, and all ELCA publications, to plan features in 2020 on the ordination of women;

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly encourage its congregations to study the draft Social Statement on Women and Justice, providing feedback for ELCA Faith and Society;

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly to request the Office of the Presiding Bishop to provide updated research in 2025 on all matters pertinent to the full and just participation of ordained women in this church;

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly to invite the prayers of all members of this church for the successful outcome of these initiatives.

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverence Kathryn Franzenburg

Adopted