Resolution #3 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly

Whereas, on April 29, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton in her official statement* addressing the synagogue shooting in Poway, CA said, “We stand against this latest public act of anti-Semitism and domestic terrorism, and with the Jewish community. Together, with our ecumenical and inter-religious partners, we will continue to ‘oppose the deadly working of such bigotry, both within our own circles and in the society around us’ (‘Declaration of ELCA to Jewish Community,’ 1994);” and

Whereas, Bishop Eaton continued, “We continue to grieve the shooting six months ago at Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh; the mosque shootings six weeks ago in Christchurch, New Zealand; the arson one month ago of three historic Black churches in Louisiana; and the church bombings on Easter Sunday in Sri Lanka;” and

Whereas, Bishop Eaton furthered continued, “We know that these incidents, together with others, are not isolated. They are linked through a tangled web of religious bigotry, violence, hatred and white supremacy that is meant to divide us — from each other and from God.”; therefore, be it

Resolved that the Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly echoes the statement of our presiding bishop and state “our actions to address anti-Semitism must oppose all deadly workings in our midst.” Recognizing that “this is hard work but also holy work,” we also recognize that “an attack on one faith community is an attack on all.” As a sign of God's liberating hope and enduring promise, we stand against this scourge of hatred and violence by standing together in our public witness and we commit ourselves to promoting the peace of Christ Jesus. We pledge our commitment to be agents of reconciliation and grace.

* [https://elca.org/News-and-Events/7968](https://elca.org/News-and-Events/7968)

Rev. Timothy Smith, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, North Liberty
Rev. Jayne M. Thompson, Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids
Rev. Katherine Werner, Bethesda Lutheran Church, Ames
Rev. Sarah Goettch, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, JustChurch, Iowa City
Jonathan Fry, Lutheran Student Center, Cedar Falls
Rev. Minna Bothwell, Capitol Hill Lutheran Church, Des Moines
Rev. Dr. Ritva H. Williams, St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids
Dan Husmann, St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church, Cedar Rapids
Rev. Clark Olson-Smith, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Clinton
Rev. Steve Cauley, Zion Lutheran Church, Muscatine
Rev. Chad Whaley, Bethany Lutheran, West Branch

Adopted