

1 **Resolution #1 Southeastern Iowa Assembly 2012**

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WHEREAS, malaria is a disease of poverty that kills over 800,000 people a year and is a leading cause of death for children under the age of 5 in Africa; and

WHEREAS, our Lutheran tradition has been to reach out and respond to God’s graciousness by working for positive change through helping to bring health, justice and hope to people who are in need; and

WHEREAS, the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly overwhelmingly approved the ELCA Malaria Campaign, and effort to raise \$15 million by the year 2015 and to work directly with our companion churches in Africa to prevent and treat malaria and to contain the number of deaths in Africa related to malaria through prayer, advocacy, education and fundraising, **therefore be it**

RESOLVED, that we commit ourselves as individuals and congregations in the Southeastern Iowa Synod as partners in the healing ministry of Jesus by preventing and treating malaria through prayer, advocacy, education and fundraising; **and be it further**

RESOLVED, that the Synod Council through the Commission for Global Relations of the Southeastern Iowa Synod encourage 100% participation of congregations in the ELCA Malaria Campaign by the year 2015.

Respectfully submitted by
The Commission for Global Relations, Southeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA

Adopted

1 **Resolution #2 Southeastern Iowa Assembly 2012**

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3 WHEREAS the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has been an active leader in the fight against
4 hunger and poverty at home and around the world with relief, education, advocacy, and development as
5 key components in this work; and

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7 WHEREAS we celebrate the great progress that has already been made even as we recognize many more
8 challenges ahead; and .

9
10 WHEREAS we acknowledge with the Rev. David Beckman of Bread for the World that “*Charitable*
11 *programs are important to hungry people, but it is impossible to food bank our way to the end of hunger*
12 *in America.*” (Exodus from Hunger, page 11); and

13
14 WHEREAS “Complacency is the enemy of progress”, (Dave Stutman); and

15
16 WHEREAS this synod seeks to be known as an “anti-hunger synod,” **therefore, be it**

17
18 **RESOLVED** that the Southeastern Iowa Synod gathered in assembly recommits itself to follow the
19 teaching of Jesus to assist our brothers and sisters living in desperate need at home and around the world
20 by fighting the root causes of poverty and hunger through strategic efforts* in 1) Awareness/Education,
21 2) Action (Relief and Development) and 3) Advocacy within congregations, communities, and the synod;
22 **and be it further**

23
24 **RESOLVED** that we as individuals and congregations accept the challenge to “step it up” to achieve the
25 goal of 100% of congregations in the synod participating in each of the three strategic efforts by the 2013
26 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly (May 31-June 1, 2013); **and be it further**

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28 **RESOLVED** that the Hunger Working Group of the synod’s Commission for Church in Society monitor
29 and provide assistance for the reaching of these goals.

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32 *Respectfully Submitted by*

33 *The Commission for Church Society and the Hunger Working Group*

34
35 *Adopted*

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37 ** Examples of strategic efforts are printed on the back of this page.*
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***Examples of Strategic Efforts**

Awareness/Education-

ELCA Hunger Packets

Hunger Sundays/Banquets

Adult Forums

Book clubs

Films Screening

Newsletter

Preaching

Speakers

“Taking Root” (ELCA children’s hunger curriculum)

Action- (Relief and Development Efforts)

Fundraising

- ELCA Hunger Appeal including God’s Global Barnyard
- Food Pantry/Soup Kitchens

Youth Lead Activities

Alternative Gift Fairs

Backpack Programs

Hunger/CROP Walks

Lutheran World Relief Efforts

- Health Kits
- School Kits
- Quilts

Community Gardens

Advocacy-

Bread for the World Offering of Letters

Letters to the Editor

ONE.org

ELCA Washington Office

Lutheran Day on the Hill

Links

www.elca.org/hunger

www.seiasynod.org/commissions/church-in-society

www.bread.org

www.exodusfromhunger.org

www.one.org

www.endhunger.usda.gov

www.myplate.gov

www.fns.usda.gov

1 **Resolution #3 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly 2012**
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4 WHEREAS, stories of faith in action are integral parts of sharing Christ's love throughout the Evangelical
5 Lutheran Church in America, and
6

7 WHEREAS, awareness and practice of how we share our time, talent and treasure is a year round
8 ministry task, and
9

10 WHEREAS, stories of faith in action can and do inspire patterns of generous and proportionate sharing,
11 and
12

13 WHEREAS, a tithe in support of the ministries of this synod and churchwide ministries is an appropriate
14 goal for those congregations currently providing less than ten percent in financial support and is the
15 springboard for growth among congregations already reflecting that level of generosity, **therefore be it**
16

17 **RESOLVED**, that the congregations of the Southeastern Iowa Synod be encouraged to commit
18 themselves to regularly telling the stories of the work we do in Christ's name in our community and
19 around the globe; **and be it further**
20

21 **RESOLVED**, to express this assembly's gratitude to the congregations of the Southeastern Iowa Synod
22 for the varied ways they faithfully support the mission and ministry of this whole church, especially with
23 gifts to and through this synod; **and be it further**
24

25 **RESOLVED**, that congregations of the Southeastern Iowa Synod be encouraged to review and renew
26 their own plans for mission, engaging members in the conversations about how local financial resources
27 are shared and why; **and be it further**
28

29 **RESOLVED**, that congregations of the Southeastern Iowa Synod be encouraged to include in their
30 stewardship programs and education the understanding that the portion of their financial resources given
31 to synod and churchwide ministries (mission support) is foundational to our shared mission; **and be it**
32 **finally**
33

34 **RESOLVED**, that as congregations determine their own commitment to Christ's mission in and through
35 the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, they be encouraged to grow in their support of the ministry
36 of this whole church.
37

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39 *Respectfully submitted by*
40 *The Southeastern Iowa Synod ELCA Commission for Evangelical Mission*
41 *and the Stewardship and Mission Support Working Group*
42

43 *Adopted*

1 **Resolution #4 Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly 2012**

2
3 WHEREAS, seminaries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) are treasures of
4 learning, wisdom, and tradition, equipping visionary leaders for service throughout the Church of Jesus
5 Christ—within the ELCA and beyond; and,

6
7 WHEREAS, seminaries of this Church are the seedbeds that educate and form pastors of the ELCA; and,

8
9 WHEREAS, Dr Jonathan P. Strandjord, ELCA Director for Theological Education, reports that there will
10 be a need for additional pastors and other leaders across the ELCA for at least the next ten years as a
11 generation of pastors retires; and,

12
13 WHEREAS, seminaries of this Church are struggling with financial challenges and burdens as the share
14 of their budgets underwritten by support from the ELCA church-wide expression has decreased
15 dramatically, requiring annual costs to be covered by raising tuition and other charges on students and
16 cultivating financial support from friends of the seminaries; and,

17
18 WHEREAS, economical means for making sizeable gift plans to benefit seminaries, congregations, and
19 other church-related institutions—within and beyond the ELCA are available through the ELCA
20 Foundation and their network of Regional Gift Planners; **therefore, be it**

21
22 **RESOLVED** that the Southeastern Iowa Synod of the ELCA:

- 23 1. **inform its congregations and members of the financial struggles our seminaries are**
24 **experiencing**—in particular, the seminaries relating to our synod most directly—Wartburg
25 Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa; and the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago; **and,**
26 2. **inform its pastors, congregations, and members of the need to seek out gifted students for**
27 **theological education and formation**, recommending them to the Admissions Offices of our
28 seminaries; **and,**
29 3. **educate its congregations and members that the ELCA Foundation can help individuals and**
30 **families develop and administer charitable trusts and other plans to benefit a multiplicity of**
31 **ministries specified by the persons for whom a trust is created**—congregations, synods,
32 colleges, universities, seminaries, Bread for the World, Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster
33 Response, and so many more; **and,**
34 4. **encourage congregations and individuals of the Southeastern Iowa Synod to include in their**
35 **annual budgets support for the Annual Funds of one or more of our ELCA seminaries.**
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37
38 *Submitted by the Revd Gregory Nelson Davis*

39 *Pastor, St. James Lutheran Church*

40 *Johnston, Iowa*

41 *Member, Board of Directors, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago,*

42 *representing the Southeastern Iowa Synod*

43
44 *Adopted*

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1 **Resolution # 5, Southeastern Iowa Synod 2012 Assembly**

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3 WHEREAS, at the Twenty-fifth Annual Assembly of the Southeastern Iowa Synod we proclaim the
4 promise, Christ Is With You, and

5
6 WHEREAS, through worship, music, testimony, discussion, and breaking bread together, our minds have
7 been enriched and our hearts have been stirred to be God's agents to bring Christ's mission to the world,
8 and the partnership we each have in that mission; **therefore be it**

9
10 **RESOLVED**, that the Southeastern Iowa Synod in Assembly hereby express its thanks and appreciation
11 to:

- 12 • Bishop Michael L. Burk for faithfully serving Christ and the Church by carrying out the
13 responsibilities and duties of the Office of Bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod, reminding us that
14 it matters being the church together and that in our praying, in our witness, and in our giving...Christ
15 is with us.
- 16 • Diane Burk for her care, loyalty, and support to the Office of the Bishop, especially as she
17 accompanies the bishop in his many travels and endeavors;
- 18 • Assistants to the Bishop, Pastor Eric Carlson, Pastor Julie Higgs, Pastor Paul Ostrem, and the
19 Director for Evangelical Mission, Pastor Gloria Dovre for their diligent work in serving the Assembly
20 and this synod;
- 21 • Synod Associate for Administration Kathy Smith, Administrative Assistant to the Bishop Lorraine
22 Jordan, Coordinator for Communications Janelle Bidne; and Receptionist Lawanda Harris for their
23 work as a team to model the partnership in ministry we all share;
- 24 • The Rev. Linda Norman, Treasurer of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), for
25 serving as the ELCA Representative to this Assembly, and proclaiming the good news that is Jesus
26 Christ.
- 27 • Scott Weidler, ELCA Program Director for Worship and Music, for his leading the assembly in
28 worship through song.
- 29 • Kara Ullestad, Timothy Maybee, Jo Kinnard and Pastor Dirk Stadlander for inspiring us by sharing
30 their faith story and how they experienced the joy and presence of Christ in their lives;
- 31 • through prayer;
- 32 • Synod Council members who directed our hearts and minds in prayer throughout the assembly;
- 33 • All leaders of Assembly worship, including Presiding Ministers, Assisting Ministers, Lectors,
34 Servers, Musicians, and worship planners for enhancing our worship together;
- 35 • Secretary Cheryl Hollich, and Treasurer Jim Ellefson for their service to this Assembly and the
36 synod;
- 37 • For Jessica Nipp and Walter Gwenigale, Jr., and the Southeastern Iowa Synod SWAT Team for their
38 leadership in the ELCA Malaria Campaign.
- 39 • Synod Council members, commissions, working groups, and related support personnel for serving the
40 Synod in its ongoing mission, with special thanks to outgoing Synod Council members, Martha
41 Bonte, Eva Garloff, Lowell Guard, Jan Kunau, Nan Schroeder, and Judy Heinrich;
- 42 • Parliamentarian, the Reverend Duane Miller, for his faithful service at this Assembly;
- 43 • Assembly Planning Committee Chair Kathy Smith for faithful attention to detail; the Assembly
44 Planning Committee for their careful and creative planning for this Assembly;
- 45 • The Elections Committee for their careful attention and work to assure that all voices were heard; and
46 the other Assembly Committees of Credentials, Minutes, Nominating, Reference and Counsel, and
47 Standing Rules for their diligent service;
- 48 • Those celebrating congregation, ordination and commission anniversaries, for their witness to Jesus
49 Christ;
- 50 • Augustana College, and the gift of hospitality as host to this assembly;
- 51 • Lutheran Church of Hope, West Des Moines for the inspiring stage set design;

- 1 • Kate Boonstra, Faith Lutheran Church, Clive for her gift of photography and the image used for the
2 assembly poster;
3 • Top Notch Productions for their gifts in lighting and sound;
4 • The many other volunteers who helped in planning and managing the details for this Assembly, those
5 taking leadership responsibilities during this Assembly, those present as voting members and visitors
6 and the whole body of Christ.

7

8 *Submitted by the Reference and Counsel Committee*

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10 *Adopted*