

RESOLUTION #3 – Affirmation of all God’s people

WHEREAS, the Eastern North Dakota (EaND) Synod of the ELCA at its 1989 assembly adopted Resolution 25 – Affirmation of Faith* welcoming and encouraging gay and lesbian people into full participation in the life of the church; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the EaND Synod affirms its commitment to be publicly engaged in inclusive ministry with its gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered brothers and sisters in Christ; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the EaND Synod directs its Hunger and Justice Committee to create opportunities for education and dialogue within the Synod regarding this commitment.

Submitted by the Eastern North Dakota Synod Hunger and Justice Committee and “Visions of Hope in Action” – Lutherans Concerned/North America – Fargo, ND Chapter

*RESOLUTION 25 - AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

MOVED, SECONDED AND CARRIED

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as a community of people of God is called to minister to all people in our world, knowing that the world is often an unloving place of alienation and brokenness, and

WHEREAS, Christ calls us to reconciliation and wholeness, and we are challenged by the gospel to be agents of healing within our society, and

WHEREAS, the evangelical nature of our church can be signaled by a change in our thinking and behaving to eliminate discrimination that tears a rift in our church family,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Assembly of the Eastern North Dakota Synod adopt the following affirmation:

That gay and lesbian people share with all others the worth that comes from being individuals created by God;

That gay and lesbian people are welcome within the membership of the church upon making the same affirmation of faith that all people make;

That as members of the church, gay and lesbian people are expected and encouraged to share in the sacramental and general life of its congregations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America undertakes a comprehensive study of human sexuality and Christian life.

SA.09.05.11 Howard Barlow moved Resolution #3, second by Ron Ellingson. **MOTION CARRIED** For – 213; Against – 161; Doug Norquist requested his vote be recorded as abstained.