

2017-04

A Proposal to Amend the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Source: Council of Faith Lutheran Church, Winona

- 1 **Whereas**, the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in
2 America (MCC) proclaims
3 1. congregations adopt the MCC in order “to carry out God’s mission” (Preamble);
4 2. Jesus Christ is the one through whom “God fashions a new creation” (*C2.02.a.);
5 3. the Word of God begins “with the Word in Creation” (*C2.02.b.); and
6 4. the Church is “sent to bear witness to God’s creative, redeeming, and sanctifying
7 activity in the world” (*C4.01.); and
8 **Whereas**, we understand that by adopting the MCC, congregations of the ELCA confess that
9 scripture calls the Church and all humanity to care for and to preserve God’s creation;
10 and
11 **Whereas**, the MCC fails to explicitly state that congregations, as part of participating in God’s
12 mission, commit themselves to care for God’s creation, and
13 **Whereas**, this silence is an unacceptable oversight, therefore be it
14 **Resolved**, that the 2017 Assembly of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod, memorialize the 2019
15 Churchwide Assembly to amend the MCC in the following manner (additions are
16 printed in blue underline, ~~deletions are printed in red strikeout~~):
17 *C4.02. To participate in God’s mission, this congregation as a part of the
18 Church shall: d. Serve in response to God’s love to meet human needs,
19 earing to care for the sick and the aged, to advocate ~~advocating~~ for dignity
20 and justice for all people, to work ~~working~~ for peace and reconciliation
21 among the nations, to stand ~~standing~~ with the poor ~~and~~, to meet the just
22 needs of the powerless, and ~~committing itself to their needs~~ to preserve the
23 quality of God’s creation.
24

This resolution was presented and approved by the Faith Lutheran Church Council on April 18, 2017.

The Committee of Reference and Counsel recommends adoption of the resolution.