

5 Resolutions

5.1 Letter from Resolutions Committee

5.2 2010-01 Regarding Advanced Care Directives

5.3 2010-02 Regarding Energy Stewardship

April 28, 2010

Dear Voting Members of the 2010 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly,

The Resolutions Committee – having reviewed all duly-submitted resolutions – hereby forwards the following to the voting members of the Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly for your consideration and possible approval:

Resolution 2010-01
Resolution 2010-02

REGARDING ADVANCED CARE DIRECTIVES
REGARDING ENERGY STEWARDSHIP

We find those resolutions to be in order and offer them to you without bias or recommendation.

Sincerely,

The Rev. Dr. John B. Valentine

2010 Resolutions Committee Members

Gisela Daetz
Jim Lapp
Roger Lee
Barbara Stephens
John Valentine (chair)

Immanuel Lutheran Church, Los Altos, CA
St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Santa Cruz, CA
Emanuel Lutheran Church, Modesto, CA
Napa Valley Lutheran Church, Napa, CA
Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, Orinda, CA

1
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45

Resolution 2010-01

REGARDING ADVANCED CARE DIRECTIVES

WHEREAS our nation is embroiled in significant debate about the high costs of health care;
and

WHEREAS medical care expenses are consuming ever-increasing portions of our Gross
National Product; and

WHEREAS a significant portion of our limited medical resources are expended in caring for
persons in the final weeks of life; and

WHEREAS families of individuals that are in end-of-life situations are more likely to make
emotional and uninformed end-of-life care decisions so they do not appear ungrateful or
self-serving; and

WHEREAS individuals that are in end-of-life situations are not always capable of
communicating their end-of-life decisions to health care professionals; and

WHEREAS the completion of Advanced Care Directives by patients in advance of end-of-
life care substantially reduces medical costs, thus freeing those limited resources for use by
other persons; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Sierra Pacific Synod memorialize the 2011 Churchwide
Assembly to advocate for the completion of Advanced Care Directives by all members of
the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sierra Pacific Synod's 'Witness and Service Discipling
Team' request that the ELCA Board of Pensions encourage all plan applicants / participants
to complete an Advance Care Directive when applying for or renewing its medical
insurance coverage; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sierra Pacific Synod memorialize the 2011
Churchwide Assembly to direct the Lutheran Office of Public Policy to advocate for the
completion of Advance Care Directives by all persons applying for or renewing medical
insurance coverage.

Submitted by
St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Walnut Creek, CA

1
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46

Resolution 2010-02

REGARDING ENERGY STEWARDSHIP

WHEREAS we are called to tend to God's creation as part of our loving service to God and to our neighbor, and yet persist in consuming energy and Earth's resources in a way that is both unsustainable in the future and unfair to those in the developing world; and

WHEREAS human activity, especially the over-consumption of energy and natural resources, appears to be a critical factor in causing environmental distress, thereby exacerbating already difficult situations for millions living with poverty and hunger, as weather extremes such as flood and drought increase; and

WHEREAS the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, recognizing the gravity of these threats, has long been committed to addressing environmental issues as part of our call to justice, sustainability, and solidarity with affected communities; and

WHEREAS the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, along with our partners in the Lutheran World Federation and Lutheran World Relief, is committed to working to alleviate hunger, poverty, and unsustainable living conditions globally; and

WHEREAS the 2009 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly committed itself to a goal of 50% reduction in our carbon footprint over the next decade; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Sierra Pacific Synod authorize the establishment of a Sierra Pacific Synod Green Team (under the auspices of the Witness and Service Discipling Team) to encourage the faithful stewardship of energy by this Synod, its congregations, administrative offices, and individual members: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sierra Pacific Synod Green Team facilitate its congregations, administrative offices and outdoor ministries offering a public witness of energy stewardship by helping them understand and significantly improve the greenhouse gas emissions (i.e., "carbon footprint") of facilities they operate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this synod memorialize the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America at its 2011 Churchwide Assembly to challenge all expressions of the ELCA to significantly reduce their energy-related greenhouse gas emissions by 2020, and to share this commitment and those steps taken to achieve it in a public way in official publications and communication channels of this church.

Submitted by:
Lutheran Church of the Incarnation, Davis, CA
and Episcopal Lutheran Campus Ministry at Stanford