

**Sierra Pacific Synod: Resolution 2022-1
Memorial to Develop a Social Statement on Homelessness**

WHEREAS the ELCA develops social statements for the teaching and formation of its members, for guidance in the institutional life of our church, and for its service and advocacy in settings of government and ecumenical and interfaith relationships; and

WHEREAS our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Scriptures that witness to the Word and work of God in the world call us again and again to serve and support those whose basic needs are not met; and

WHEREAS the ELCA intends that social statements “seek to discern God’s will for today” by guiding us in developing a faithful understanding of and just response to current social issues; and

WHEREAS in the most recent census the United States counted over half a million homeless individuals in January 2020, and statistics show that homelessness has been on the rise for the past five years and that the United States needs approximately 7 million affordable housing units to resolve the current housing crisis; and

WHEREAS the most recent statement on homelessness from the ELCA was a social message adopted by the ELCA Church Council over thirty years ago; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Sierra Pacific Synod in assembly memorializes the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to commit to developing a social statement on homelessness.