

**RESOLUTION [MEMORIAL] TO REMOVE [REVISE] SOCIAL STATEMENT
“HUMAN SEXUALITY: GIFT AND TRUST”***

WHEREAS, the 2009 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in accordance with ELCA bylaw 12.12.01, adopted a social statement “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust” by exactly a two-thirds vote; and

WHEREAS, the social statement has generated substantial disagreement and debate among faithful members of the ELCA;

WHEREAS, members of the _____ Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America believe that the social statement “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust” should be reconsidered and removed [revised]; and

WHEREAS, “Policies and Procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Addressing Social Concerns” expressly provides for reconsideration of a social statement by the Churchwide Assembly following its adoption and its removal or revision; and

WHEREAS, members of the _____ Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (insert other explanatory reasons in support of memorial): therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Synod Council of the _____ Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America request the Church Council to request the Churchwide Assembly to reconsider and remove [revise] the social statement “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust” in accordance with “Policies and Procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Addressing Social Concerns.”

OR

[RESOLVED, that the _____ Synod Assembly direct the _____ Synod Council to request the Church Council to request the Churchwide Assembly to reconsider and remove [revise] the social statement “Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust” in accordance with “Policies and Procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Addressing Social Concerns.”.]

* The “Policies and Procedures of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America for Addressing Social Concerns” provides a process for reconsideration of a social statement. This process applies in lieu of the motion to rescind/amend something previously adopted as addressed in *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised* (10th ed.), section 35. The relevant provision of the ELCA policy on p. 17 states as follows:

Churchwide Assemblies may reconsider previously adopted social statements. Such reconsideration may involve either a revision or removal of the statement. This may be done in two ways:

1. A Churchwide Assembly, by a two-thirds vote, may call for the reconsideration of a social statement at the next assembly. Subsequent to such a vote, the social statement shall be referred to the Church in Society unit for re-study. The proposed change and the reasons for it shall be made available to this church with an official notice of such proposed action to be sent to the synods by the secretary of this church at least three months prior to the Churchwide Assembly at which it will be considered. A two-thirds vote of the assembly shall be required to revise or remove the social statement.
2. The Church Council by a two-thirds vote of its voting members may ask the Churchwide Assembly to reconsider a social statement. Such Church Council action must be taken no later than at the Church Council meeting in the autumn prior to the assembly. The proposed change and the reasons for it shall then be made available to this church with an official notice of such proposed action to be sent to the synods by the secretary of this church at least three months prior to

the Churchwide Assembly. A two-thirds vote of the assembly shall be required to reconsider the statement and also to revise or remove it. Both actions may occur at the same assembly.