

Resolution Number 7 2009 Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Assembly

**"A MEMORIAL TO PERMANENTLY END DISCRIMINATION IN
DISCIPLINE"**

1 **WHEREAS**, the ELCA has repeatedly welcomed gay and lesbian people into its life (including
2 resolutions of the 1991, 1995, 1999, 2005, and 2007 Churchwide Assemblies), and
3 congregations throughout the ELCA are faithfully and effectively served by qualified ministers
4 who are in a committed same-gender relationship; and

5 **WHEREAS**, a congregation that wishes to call as its minister an otherwise-qualified person in a
6 committed same-gender partnership should be permitted to do so, while at the same time a
7 congregation that does not wish to call such a minister cannot and should not be forced to do so;
8 and

9 **WHEREAS**, 22 synods have directed the ELCA to eliminate discrimination against ministers in
10 a same-partnership and the congregations who call them. These synods include Grand Canyon,
11 Greater Milwaukee, Metro New York, Metro Washington DC, Metropolitan Chicago,
12 Minneapolis Area, New England, New Jersey, Northeastern Minnesota, Northeastern
13 Pennsylvania, Northern Illinois, Northwest Washington, Oregon, Rocky Mountain, Saint Paul
14 Area, Sierra Pacific, South/Central Wisconsin, Southeastern Iowa, Southeastern Pennsylvania,
15 Southwest California, Southwestern Washington, Upstate New York; now, therefore, be it

16 **RESOLVED**, that the Eastern Washington/Idaho Synod, meeting in Assembly, memorialize the
17 2009 Churchwide Assembly to direct the Committee on Appeals and the Church Council to take
18 all steps necessary to amend "Definitions and Guidelines for Discipline" so that being in a same-
19 gender partnership of mutual love and fidelity is not in itself grounds for an ordained or rostered
20 lay minister to be subject to discipline.

Submitted by,
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See Attached List of Additional Signers
February 25, 2009

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ADDITIONAL SIGNERS:

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ADDITIONAL SIGNERS CONTINUED:

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