

Sierra Pacific Synod: Resolution 2019-2
Implementing Actions Regarding ‘Faith, Sexism, and Justice’

1. WHEREAS at its 2019 Churchwide Assembly, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in
2. America (ELCA) will consider the proposed Social Statement: “Faith, Sexism, and
3. Justice: a Lutheran Call to Action”; and
- 4.
5. WHEREAS this proposed statement acknowledges that “humans live in a state of sin...
6. [and] collectively live out this [state of sin] through disobedience to God...and acts
7. against others”; and
- 8.
9. WHEREAS this proposed statement claims “Just as this church identifies patriarchy and
10. sexism as sin. We confess that we are simultaneously liberated and sinful...”; and “Our
11. tradition's complicity in patriarchy and sexism”; and confesses “that Christianity
12. [including Lutheranism] has been complicit in the sins of patriarchy and sexism”; and
- 13.
14. WHEREAS this proposed statement asserts that “everyone knowingly or unknowingly
15. participates in this patriarchal system” which “makes us complicit in maintaining systems
16. of oppression”; and
- 17.
18. WHEREAS this proposed statement confesses that “we are captive to sin and cannot free
19. ourselves” and concludes “once we understand our own participation in this systemic
20. harm we can identify it as sin, confess it, and ... begin to act differently”; and
- 21.
22. WHEREAS this proposed statement concludes: “The fundamental commitment needed is
23. not to a particular program, practice, or process. Rather, we are called to repentance...”;
24. and
- 25.
26. WHEREAS as the ELCA has previously issued statements of repentance in such
27. documents as the “Declaration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to the
28. Jewish Community” in 1994 and the “Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery” in 2016;
29. therefore, be it
- 30.
31. RESOLVED, that the Sierra Pacific Synod memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly
32. of the ELCA to include among the implementing resolutions appended to “Faith, Sexism,
33. and Justice: A Lutheran Call to Action” commitments to make a public statement of
34. repentance for the sins of patriarchy and sexism, to establish a national day of confession
35. and repentance for the sins of sexism and patriarchy, and to provide worship and
36. educational resources to synods and congregations so as to equip this church to
37. meaningfully embrace this call to repentance.
- 38.
39. *Sponsored by New Creation, San Jose*
40. *Co-Sponsored by 15 Voting Members of the 2019 Synod Assembly*
41. *Vetted by the Resolutions Committee on May 1, 2019*