

AFFIRM ACTIONS OF THE TASK FORCE FOR ELCA STUDIES ON SEXUALITY
With regard to the proposed Social Statement, *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust*

WHEREAS, the 2005 ELCA Churchwide Assembly urged every part of the ELCA to “concentrate on finding ways to live together faithfully in the midst of disagreements, recognizing the God-given mission and communion that we share as members of the body of Christ”; and

WHEREAS, the 2007 ELCA Churchwide Assembly encouraged the ELCA's synods, bishops and presiding bishop to “refrain from or demonstrate restraint in disciplining’ people and congregations who call qualified leaders on the professional rosters of the ELCA ‘who are in a mutual, chaste and faithful, committed, same-gender relationship;” and

WHEREAS, the Northern Illinois Synod resolved at its 2007 assembly that “the Vocation and Education Unit [of the ELCA], in consultation with the Conference of Bishops, develop an amendment to the document known as *Visions and Expectations* that removes provisions requiring persons who are ‘homosexual in their self-understanding’ to ‘abstain from homosexual relationships.”(NIS-Resolution R-6 – 2007 Assembly); and

WHEREAS, the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality has completed its work, providing the ELCA Churchwide Assembly, with *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust*; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality has provided *Recommendation on Ministry Policy* as mandated by the 2007 ELCA Churchwide Assembly;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the 2009 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly memorialize the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to offer thanks and appreciation for the faithful work of the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 2009 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly memorialize the 2009 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to receive and accept: *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust* as an official Social Statement of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the 2009 Northern Illinois Synod Assembly call on all in the ELCA to pray for a Christ-centered, Spirit guided, God pleasing outcome to these deliberations.

Submitted by: Rev. Kenn Storck, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Rockford, IL on behalf of the North Conference Ministerium and rostered leaders and members of congregations in the Northern Illinois Synod, ELCA
Signers: Rev. Gary Park, Rev. Rob James, Rev. Paul Wold, Rev. Denver Bitner, Rev. Troy Hedrick, Rev. John Heins, Ron Burmeister MD, Sarah Storck, Rev. Jay Quinn, Rev. Dell Olson, Rev. Luverne Runestad, Rev. Rich Likeness, Rev. Loren Nielsen, Rev. Kenn Storck, Carol Burmeister, Rachel Storck, Rev. Chris Hawkins, Rev. Frances R. Olson, Rev. Don Lavelle, Rev. Woody Knutson, Rev. Jim Roberts, Rev. Frank Moyer, Kyle Wolfe, Elizabeth Storck, Ellen Storck, Carol Ostrom, Rick Brenton, Dar Crumb, Liz Schultz, Kay Becker, Donda Toti

Contact Person: Rev. Kenn Storck
Date Received: April 11, 2009

Action of the Resolution Committee

Date of Action: April 13, 2009
Action Taken: Recommend adoption of the resolution