

**ENCOURAGE NIS CONGREGATIONS TO STUDY ECONOMICS
AS A MATTER OF FAITH**

WHEREAS, despite its secularization over the years, the very term “economics” has its origin in classical theological thought; and

WHEREAS, the current economic crisis affecting the lives of persons locally, regionally, nationally and globally has become a matter of crucial importance to the mission of the Church; and

WHEREAS, many members of ELCA congregations and the communities they serve are suffering as a consequence of economic outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the call to follow Christ Jesus is a call to seek justice for all and to minister to those who suffer hardship of any kind; and

WHEREAS, the voting members of the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in 1999 adopted a Social Statement on Economic Life entitled, “Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All,” and enacted Implementing Resolutions calling for ongoing attention to the pursuit of economic justice as a matter of faith;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in 2009-2010 the members of all Northern Illinois Synod congregations be encouraged to renew their acquaintance with the 1999 ELCA Social Statement, “Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All;” and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the members of Northern Illinois Synod seek, as a matter of faith, opportunities to impact public economic policy in ways which honor God’s creation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in the regular annual assemblies of each of the eight NIS Conferences, the Conference Deans receive reports on such activities and ideas as may emerge from congregational studies on economic policy, and forward these to Lutheran Advocacy – Illinois, the ELCA Public Policy Advocacy Office in Illinois for review and possible action.

Submitted by: Northern Illinois Synod, Social Ministry Committee

Contact Person: Rev. Kurt Hansen

Date Received: April 13, 2009

Action of the Resolution Committee

Date of Action: April 13, 2009

Action Taken: Recommend adoption of the resolution