

# Women of the EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

NINTH TRIENNIAL CONVENTION | JULY 22-24, 2014 | CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA



## MEMORIALS AND RESOLUTIONS ACTED ON BY THE NINTH TRIENNIAL CONVENTION

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## Memorial 1 – Awareness and Prevention of Human Trafficking

On the matter of awareness and prevention of human trafficking, the Memorials Committee recommended adoption of this resolution as amended (amendments are in bold).

**RESOLVED**, that each synodical board convene a committee, in which at least one but no more than half of committee members shall be board members. This committee shall be charged with reviewing resources and helping the synodical organization to promote resources that can help units to inform, educate, and mobilize their congregations and communities, through prayer, ministry and political action.

**RESOLVED**, that units use this committee and the resources they recommend to inform, educate, and mobilize their congregations and communities, through prayer, ministry and political action.

**RESOLVED**, that each synodical president report to the 2016 Conference of Presidents about how the recommended committee has functioned in her synodical women's organization.

The convention voted: 314 aye, 41 no

## Memorial 2 – Bullying, Harassment and Related Violence

On the matter of bullying, harassment and related violence, the Memorials Committee recommended adoption of this resolution as amended (amendments are in bold).

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the Ninth Triennial convention encourage synodical organizations to identify other organizations that are working to combat bullying, harassment, and related violence, and partner with these organizations to facilitate

presentations at synodical events to introduce curriculum that:

- a. Utilizes positive, inclusive, empowering and developmentally appropriate materials,
- b. Raises participants' awareness about the issue,
- c. Focuses on prevention,
- d. Seeks to change bystander behavior into ally behavior,
- e. Creates partnerships between youth and adults;

and be it further

RESOLVED, that all expressions of Women of the ELCA champion this concern for safety of our children and to advocate for congregational education to prevent bullying, harassment, and related violence in church, school and society.

As part of an en bloc action, the convention voted: aye 331, no 20

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## Memorial 3 – Creating Safe Churches for Children

On the matter of creating safe churches for children, the Memorials Committee recommended adoption of this resolution as amended (amendments are in bold).

RESOLVED, that the Upstate New York Synodical Women's Organization strongly encourages all our congregations and their ministries to offer child abuse education and prevention training for all staff and volunteers who have contact with children and youth; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the Ninth Triennial Convention encourage participants and congregational units of Women of the ELCA to support their congregations in reviewing their childcare policies and providing child abuse education and prevention training for all staff and volunteers who have contact with children and youth.

As part of an en bloc action, the convention voted: aye 331, no 20

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## Memorial 5 – Solar Power for Phebe Hospital

The Memorials Committee recommended adoption of this resolution as amended (amendments are in bold).

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the Ninth Triennial Convention encourage Women of the ELCA in all its expressions to hold in prayer the fragile country of Liberia as it struggles to recover from the tragedy of fourteen years of war; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the delegates of the Ninth Triennial Convention affirm the extraordinary efforts of the Northeastern Minnesota Synodical Women's Organization to work with RREAL and the National Lutheran Church Women Fellowship of Liberia to develop a proposal for providing solar power to the Phebe hospital in Liberia; and be it further resolved

RESOLVED, that the Northeastern Minnesota SWO continue to inform the churchwide women's organization about the progress of this project over the next triennium and encourage women throughout the organization to pray for and support this extraordinary initiative.

The convention voted: 336 aye, 17 no

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## Resolution 2014.02, Immigration of Children in Crises

The Committee on Reference and Council recommended adoption of this resolution as amended (amendments are in bold).

RESOLVED that we call upon Women of the ELCA to pray for God's guidance and direction in this current humanitarian crisis;

RESOLVED that the synodical and congregational units of Women of the ELCA educate themselves and others about this humanitarian crisis of unaccompanied children and about the broader issue of undocumented immigrants seeking work and a better life in our country; and that they work and advocate with established programs such as Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services;

RESOLVED that synodical and congregational units of Women of the ELCA encourage their congregations to be places of hospitality to reach out to local Latino, Hispanic communities, and to offer assistance and shelter for children.

RESOLVED that this resolution be sent to the Presiding Bishop of the ELCA and the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of our government, reminding them to welcome the children who are seeking refuge from violence and treat them with compassion.

The convention voted 318 aye, 30 no