

TO ENCOURAGE PARTICIPATION IN ELCA ANTI-HUNGER EFFORTS

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- WHEREAS, 1.4 billion people live in extreme poverty, with income below US\$1.25 per day (World Bank, 2008); and
- WHEREAS, our Lord made it crystal clear that we are to love God and serve our neighbor (Matthew 22:37); and
- WHEREAS, 20% of the congregations in the Metropolitan Chicago Synod achieve the goal set by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) of \$5.00 per member per year contributed to ELCA World Hunger; and
- WHEREAS, the members of the ELCA could, with a contribution of less than \$10.00 per month, do our part toward the goal of applying the equivalent of 1% of the federal budget to the elimination of extreme poverty in the world; and
- WHEREAS, ELCA hunger benefits are used to meet all kinds of human needs, both domestic and international; and
- WHEREAS, the ELCA World Hunger Program has demonstrated effectiveness and efficiency in battling hunger and its causes and deserves our support; and
- WHEREAS, God's people respond generously when they see and understand a real human need; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, that the synod's hunger team will aggressively seek involvement from all congregations in the ELCA World Hunger Program; and be it further
- RESOLVED, that the synod's hunger team search out congregations with best practices for strengthening support of hunger needs and share those best practices widely; and be it further resolved
- RESOLVED, that, by passing this resolution, we, the church of God, commit ourselves joyfully to follow Christ's call as recorded in Matthew 25:34-35; and be it further
- RESOLVED, that each congregation in the synod be urged to use the resources provided by our churchwide office to educate each member to the need; and be it further

39 RESOLVED, that congregations in communities that struggle with hunger and poverty be
40 encouraged to work with our churchwide office to use the full resources of the
41 ELCA World Hunger program, going beyond relief to include development,
42 education, and advocacy.

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45 Submitted by:

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47 Mr. Fred Biederman, Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Lincolnshire, Ill.

48 The Rev. Christine Meyer, Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Lincolnshire, Ill.