

RESOLUTION #6

Submitted by Dilworth Lutheran Church Council, Dilworth

A Resolution Regarding Designation of Voting Members at Synod and Churchwide Assemblies

- 1 **WHEREAS,** the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) maintains rosters of ordained ministers,
2 commissioned associates in ministry, consecrated diaconal ministers and consecrated
3 deaconesses; and
- 4 **WHEREAS,** the latter three rosters named above are designated the “official lay rosters” of the ELCA; and
- 5 **WHEREAS,** at least 60% of the voting members of synod and churchwide assemblies shall be composed of
6 laypersons, with the remaining voting members being **ordained ministers**; and
- 7 **WHEREAS,** persons on the three official lay rosters who serve as voting members at synod or churchwide
8 assemblies are counted as “lay voting members” of said assemblies; and
- 9 **WHEREAS,** all rostered leaders go through the ELCA candidacy process, involving discernment of call,
10 theological education and practical training for ministry; and
- 11 **WHEREAS,** considering rostered lay leaders as “lay voting members” at synod and churchwide assemblies
12 diminishes the number of lay voting members who do not work for congregations or church
13 agencies; therefore be it
- 14 **RESOLVED,** that the Northwestern Minnesota Synod memorialize the 2011 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to
15 amend ELCA governing documents to designate voting members at synod and churchwide
16 assemblies as made up of at least 60% laypersons (none of whom would be rostered lay leaders),
17 with the remaining voting members being “**rostered leaders**” drawn from all four ministry rosters
18 of the ELCA.