

ACTIVITIES PROMOTING HOMOSEXUAL CLERGY

Taken by

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

- August 2007, at the churchwide assembly of the ELCA, a formal directive was approved instructing member churches not to discipline homosexual clergy and homosexual church leaders.
- November 2008 the ELCA attempted to modify the Constitution of the ELCA to allow Social Statements like the “Social Statement On Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust” to be more easily approved by simple majority vote instead of requiring a 2/3rds vote for approval. This attempt to change the Constitution of the ELCA failed.
- August of 2009, at the churchwide assembly of the ELCA, a formal vote is scheduled to approve the “Social Statement On Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust” which promotes policies within the church which we believe to be in direct contradiction to the teachings in Holy Scripture.
- August of 2009, at the churchwide assembly of the ELCA, formal votes are scheduled to approve “Recommendation on Ministry Policies” and “Implementing Resolutions” which promotes policies which are consistent with the conclusions of the “Social Statement On Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust” which we believe to be in direct contradiction to the teachings in Holy Scripture.
- Excerpts from “Implementing Resolutions”: (approval requires only simply majority of delegate vote in August)

“To call upon all congregations, synods, early childhood education centers, elementary and secondary schools, colleges and universities, seminaries, campus ministries, outdoor ministries, social ministry organizations, public policy advocacy ministries, and all churchwide units to carry out the substance and spirit of this statement.” This resolution has the effect of requiring ELCA schools and churches to implement the conclusions of the social study which promotes homosexual clergy.

“To call upon Church in Society and other appropriate churchwide units to oversee a process of implementation and accountability for this social statement and to report on implementation to the Church Council in early 2012.” Further instructions to implement the findings of the social study which promotes homosexual clergy.

“To call upon the ELCA to amend the eligibility provisions of the ELCA Pension and Other Benefits Program, consistent with the policies of this church.” This provision will likely result in the ELCA offering employment benefits to gay partners of ELCA clergy and staff.

“To call upon this church to encourage the availability and funding of comprehensive sex education programs in public schools, as well as in Lutheran private schools.” This provision may result in the ELCA funding the production of sex education materials for both public and private schools which may contain material, conclusions, and instructions which are consistent with the social study and are contrary to the teachings in Holy Scripture.