

### **Resolution in Support of Trans Persons**

Whereas, in John 13:34 Jesus Christ says “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”; and

Whereas, faithful members of the ELCA include trans and non-binary adults and youth, who are Beloved Children of G-d; and

Whereas, the Pacifica Synod is a Reconciling in Christ Synod, affirming and advocating for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of LGBTQIA+ persons; and

Whereas, our ELCA Bishop Elizabeth Eaton issued a statement on 3/30/23 condemning Anti-Transgender Legislation\*; and

Whereas, this is a pressing issue, as anti-trans legislation is on the rise, with over 540 anti-LGBTQIA+ bills introduced in state legislatures so far in 2023 (more than twice the number introduced in the 2022 calendar year)\*\*; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Pacific Synod of the ELCA go on record as supporting Trans and Non-Binary persons, and condemning Anti-LGBTQIA+ Legislation; and

RESOLVED, That the Pacifica Synod instructs our Bishop to communicate to our appropriate representatives, in the House and Senate on both the state and federal levels, our support of Trans persons and our condemnation of Anti-LGBTQIA+ Legislation; and

RESOLVED, That the Pacifica Synod recommends our bishop share this concern with bishops of other ELCA synods, that they may consider taking similar actions in their respective legislative districts and states; and

RESOLVED, That the congregations of the Pacifica Synod are encouraged to inform their members of ongoing Anti-Trans and Anti-LGBTQIA+ legislation efforts, and to encourage their members to directly communicate, with urgency, their support of Trans persons to their state and federal representatives.

\* [https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8191?\\_ga=2.81515986.473938401.1683304793-1344994209.1683304793](https://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/8191?_ga=2.81515986.473938401.1683304793-1344994209.1683304793)

\*\*Human Rights Campaign, hrc.org <https://www.hrc.org/press-releases/weekly-roundup-of-anti-lgbtq-legislation-advancing-in-states-across-the-country-3>

Jennifer Gittings, Ascension Lutheran Church

Rev. Rick Fry, Ascension Lutheran Church

Georgia Gredvig, Ascension Lutheran Church

Rev. Jaz Waring, The Table OC

Rev. Sarah Sumner-Eisenbraun, St. Andrew’s San Diego

Pastor Manuel Retamoza, St. Andrew’s San Diego

Rev. Dr. Richard W. Martyn, Interim St. Olaf

Deacon Barbara Martyn, Interim St. Olaf

Kathy Bergmann, First Lutheran, Fullerton

Diane Sandvold, First Lutheran, Fullerton