

SIERRA PACIFIC SYNOD: RESOLUTION 2022-1

MEMORIAL TO DEVELOP A SOCIAL STATEMENT ON HOMELESSNESS

1 WHEREAS the ELCA develops social statements for the teaching and formation of its members,
2 for guidance in the institutional life of our church, and for its service and advocacy in settings of
3 government and ecumenical and interfaith relationships; and

4 WHEREAS our Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Scriptures that witness to the Word and work of
5 God in the world call us again and again to serve and support those whose basic needs are not
6 met; and

7 WHEREAS the ELCA intends that social statements “seek to discern God’s will for today” by
8 guiding us in developing a faithful understanding of and just response to current social issues;
9 and

10 WHEREAS in the most recent census the United States counted over half a million homeless
11 individuals in January 2020, and statistics show that homelessness has been on the rise for the
12 past five years and that the United States needs approximately 7 million affordable housing units
13 to resolve the current housing crisis; and

14 WHEREAS the most recent statement on homelessness from the ELCA was a social message
15 adopted by the ELCA Church Council over thirty years ago; therefore be it

16 RESOLVED that the Sierra Pacific Synod in assembly memorializes the 2022 ELCA Churchwide
17 Assembly to commit to developing a social statement on homelessness.

Submitted by 2022 Sierra Pacific Synod Assembly voting members:

Kathryn Swartz, St. James Lutheran Church, Redding, CA
The Rev. Lyle J. Beckman, St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, San Francisco, CA
The Rev. Dr. Janet E. Blair, Thanksgiving Lutheran Church, Santa Rosa, CA
Brian Brozovic, Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Rohnert Park, CA
The Rev. Benjamin Colahan, Faith Lutheran Church, Chico, CA
The Rev. Lyn Crase, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Modesto, CA
The Rev. Derek Engfelt, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Saratoga, CA
The Rev. John L. Freeseemann, Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church, San Jose, CA
The Rev. John Goldstein, Grace Lutheran Church, San Jose, CA
Sandra Hamilton Slane, Synod Council Member, Redwood Mountain Conference, CA
Jean Harrison, Thanksgiving Lutheran Church, Santa Rosa, CA
The Rev. Tyler Jensen, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Santa Rosa, CA
Cynthia Kampf, Faith Lutheran Church, Chico, CA
Myrna Kappler, Cross and Crown Lutheran Church, Rohnert Park, CA
The Rev. Brad Keyser-Boswell, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Weaverville, CA
The Rev. Lori Keyser-Boswell, Zion Lutheran Church, Yreka, CA
The Rev. James P. Lapp, St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church, Santa Cruz, CA
The Rev. Dr. Charlane Lines, Faith Lutheran Church, Meadow Vista, CA
The Rev. Sandi Olson Decker, Grace Lutheran Church, King City, CA
The Rev. Sara Pearson, Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Saratoga, CA
Mel Rube, St. James Lutheran Church, Redding, CA
The Rev. John Sullivan, Hope Lutheran Church, Santa Clara, CA
The Rev. Robert Swartz, St. James Lutheran Church, Redding, CA