

Resolution #2 - 2010 Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Assembly

**" A RESOLUTION CONCERNING TERM LIMITS FOR THE
OFFICE OF BISHOP "**

- 1 **WHEREAS** Scripture states that, "It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to
2 be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare
3 God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we
4 all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become
5 mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-13);
6 and
7
- 8 **WHEREAS** gifts are given by God to persons chosen for a specific ministry often
9 laying dormant only to be awakened within one who has been given greater
10 responsibility, becoming active when needed; and
11
- 12 **WHEREAS** for the sake of mission, this church trusts its people to discern the work
13 of the Holy Spirit in calling all servants--including pastors--into ministry without
14 regard to term; and
15
- 16 **WHEREAS** the office of Bishop is a call which takes time to develop, learn one's
17 way and style, and grow into the call (coming to maturity and confidence); and
18
- 19 **WHEREAS** the Bishop of this synod is its chief missionary, with 60% of the bishop's
20 time committed toward helping promote the great commission and great
21 commandment mission emphasis in our synod; and
22
- 23 **WHEREAS** this Synod and the Churchwide expression are dealing with
24 unprecedented economic and social justice realities (i.e., the recession and 2009
25 ELCA Churchwide Assembly decisions regarding sexuality); and
26
- 27 **WHEREAS** this Synod desires a bishop with experience, insight, and confidence and
28 who has solid partnerships in place with ELCA and Region One partners; and
29
- 30 **WHEREAS** the terms of other officers of this Synod (Vice-president, secretary and
31 treasurer) are ending in 2011, potentially resulting in a major turnover of the
32 executive committee's lay leadership at the same time as electing a new bishop; and
33
- 34 **WHEREAS** the Constitution of this Synod provides opportunity for discernment of
35 call by a regular election process (see S8.51a); therefore be it
36
- 37 **RESOLVED** that bylaw S8.51.01, which states, "The Bishop may be reelected only
38 once, limiting the number of years in office to 12," be deleted from the Constitution
39 of the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod of the ELCA.

Submitted by,

Pastor David Haven

Celebration Lutheran Church - East Wenatchee, WA

February 3, 2010

Resolution Passed (SA10.04.06)

2010 Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Assembly - April 24, 2010

ADDITIONAL SIGNERS:

*Pastor Bob Kenyon
Emanuel Lutheran Church - Ritzville, WA*

*Ms. Tami McHugh
Trinity Lutheran Church - Nampa, ID*

*Mr. Donn Gehret
Central Lutheran - Spokane, WA*

*Ms. Joanna Williams
St. John Lutheran - Medical Lake, WA*

*Pastor Tom Inch
Ephrata, WA*

*Mr. Paul Kusche
First Lutheran - Sandpoint, ID*

*Mr. Al Hanson
Zion Lutheran - Spokane Valley, WA*

*Dr. Anne Palma
Immanuel Lutheran - Boise, ID*

*Pastor Carol Nelson
Central Lutheran - Yakima, WA*

*Mr. Wayne Stevens
First Lutheran - Idaho Falls, ID*

*Ms. Cherie Stevens
First Lutheran - Idaho Falls, ID*

*Pastor Helga Jansons
First Lutheran - Kennewick, WA*

*Pastor Dan Rieke
Lord of Life Lutheran - Kennewick, WA*

*Ms. Mary Kaye Hergert
First Lutheran - Pasco, WA*

*Ms. Elaine Queener
Troy Lutheran - Troy, ID*

*Pastor Karen Bates Olson
Lutheran Church of the Master - Pasco,
WA*

*Mr. Ken Jones
Faith Lutheran - Pierce, ID*

*Pastor Eric Dull
St. Mark's Lutheran - Spokane, WA*

*Pastor Ron Jetter
Our Saviour's Lutheran - Sunnyside, WA*