

RESOLUTION #1-- Continuing Education for Rostered Leaders

WHEREAS many professions have continuing education requirements that link fulfillment of a minimum number of continuing education units (CEUs) to continued practice of the profession; and

WHEREAS the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America encourages lifelong learning and professional growth for rostered leaders and requires congregations to provide time and financial resources for rostered leaders to pursue continuing education; and

WHEREAS there is no systematic oversight of continuing education or basic requirements for a minimum number of continuing education units on a periodic basis; and

WHEREAS there are no stated consequences for rostered leaders who do not engage in periodic continuing education;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly memorialize the ELCA Assembly to request that the Division for Professional Leadership establish continuing education requirements for all rostered leaders; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that criteria for approved continuing education programs and courses be established as part of the requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that consequences for failure to meet the minimum (CEU) requirements be established; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a system for maintaining the records of completed educational requirements of rostered leaders be developed, including the possibility of synodical cooperation in this process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that financial support for the administration of the continuing education requirements be provided by an annual fee from rostered leaders' continuing education funds or by other means determined by the Division for Professional Leadership.

Submitted by: Larry V. Smoose
 Reformation, Media

The committee recommends approval of the resolution.