

## Resolution 1 – 2019 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly Memorial on Gun Violence Prevention

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WHEREAS, the ELCA remains unalterably opposed to violence in our communities and committed to our Christian role as peacemakers; and

WHEREAS, mass shootings have continued to increase in the United States since the last Social Policy Resolution on Gun Violence Prevention was passed in 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States failed to pass the Assault Weapons Ban bill of 2018; and

WHEREAS, we have watched a rising wave of young people and parents in our country who are advocating for stricter gun regulation laws in order to create safe schools and safe neighborhoods, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that the Greater Milwaukee Synod, in assembly, memorialize the ELCA at its 2019 Churchwide Assembly to once again encourage bishops, pastors, and Lutheran leaders to urge Congress and state legislatures to pass an assault weapons ban to replace the assault weapons ban that expired in 2004, this ban to include assault-like rifles and high-capacity magazines; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the ELCA once again encourage the bishops, pastors, and Lutheran leaders to urge Congress and state legislatures to pass laws for strict background checks for all gun sales, including private sales; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the ELCA once again encourage the bishops, pastors, and Lutheran leaders to urge members of this church to contact their elected leaders through phone calls, letters, e-mails, and petitions, urging them to pass legislation for background checks and the ban of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines.

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### ***Submitted by United Lutheran Church, Racine***

*Co-sponsored by Kenosha and Racine Cluster members: Rev. Cindy Aasen, St. Paul's/Spirit Alive, Kenosha; Mr. John Anderson, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Racine; Rev. Johnathan Barker, Grace Kenosha; Rev. John Bischoff, United Lutheran, Racine; Mr. Karl Erickson, ELCA Outreach Center; Rev. Allison Johnson, Journey in Faith, Racine; Rev. Jim Lynch, St. Johns / Holy Nativity, Kenosha; Rev. Karen Pahl, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Racine; Rev. Sheila Rawn, St. Mary's, Kenosha; Rev. Harvard Stephens, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Kenosha; Rev. Beth-Ann Stone, Mt. Pleasant, Racine; Mr. David Ulrich, St. Marys Kenosha; and Rev. Krista Zimmerman, Mt. Pleasant, Racine.*