Resolution 1 – 2015 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly
Resolution on Social Justice and Ministry

WHEREAS, the prophet Isaiah (1:17) encourages us to "learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; defend the fatherless, and plead for the widow"; and
WHEREAS, our Lord Jesus Christ ministered to the outcasts of society and proclaimed God's love and grace to all who believe; and
WHEREAS, in baptism we are called to work for social justice and peace; and
WHEREAS, we are witnessing great injustices in our communities, state, nation and world that, as Christians we are compelled to stand witness against; and
WHEREAS, Bishop Eaton is calling upon Lutheran Churches to be a “place where the deep, honest, even painful conversation about race can take place so people feel they have been heard, and change and healing can happen”; and
WHEREAS, many congregations in the Greater Milwaukee Synod have identified addressing social injustice as a priority, now, therefore, be it
RESOLVED, that the Synod Council in partnership with the recognized justice teams of the Synod continue to hold justice issues as a high priority, and be it further
RESOLVED, that the synod council in partnership with the recognized justice teams of the synod develop materials, forums, and guidance for engagement and action around social issues challenging individuals and congregations to rededicate themselves to engagement on social issues more faithfully in their context, and be it further
RESOLVED, that the synod call upon congregations of the GMS to promote social justice by encouraging all congregational members to contact members of the Senate and State Assembly by June 10 2015 and demand the 5 million dollars in the State proposed budget to incarcerate more people be reallocated for Treatment, Alternatives and Diversions instead of prison.

Submitted by the St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Wauwatosa
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