

Gun Violence Prevention Greater Milwaukee Synod (5J) [2019]

WHEREAS, the ELCA remains unalterably opposed to violence in communities and committed to the 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, individuals have watched a rising wave of young people and parents in the United States 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 Assembly memorialize the 2019 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to encourage bishops, pastors, deacons, 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, to include a ban on assault-like rifles and high-capacity magazines, to pass laws for strict background checks for all gun sales, including private sales; and to urge members of the ELCA to contact their elected leaders through phone calls, letters, e-mails, and petitions, urging them to pass such legislation.

Anticipated Memorial Implementation Analysis

Memorial Title: Memorial on Gun Violence Prevention

Anticipated financial implications of memorial if adopted for:

- Churchwide Organization
 - Minimal beyond some staff time for dissemination of information.
- Synods
 - Minimal beyond some staff time for dissemination of information.
- Congregations
 - Minimal beyond some staff time for dissemination of information.

Anticipated staff or personnel implications of memorial if adopted for:

- Churchwide Organization
 - Time spent disseminating information.
- Synods
 - Time spent disseminating information.
- Congregations
 - Time spent disseminating information.