

Resolution 3 – 2016 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly
Memorial to the Churchwide Assembly on Black Lives Matter*

Submitted by Milwaukee Clusters 1 & 2

Co-sponsored by All Peoples Lutheran Church, Milwaukee; Hephatha Lutheran Church, Milwaukee; Village Church, Milwaukee; and the GMS Anti-Racism Team

Whereas, Scripture teaches us to "mourn with those who mourn" (Romans 12:15). And that, "If one part [of the body of Christ] suffers, every part suffers with it" (1 Corinthians 12:26); and

Whereas, the 1993 CWA adopted *FREED IN CHRIST: RACE, ETHNICITY, AND CULTURE* which includes a time of confession and a time of commitment; and

Whereas, the 2013 CWA adopted *THE CHURCH AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE: HEARING THE CRIES* which names the sin of mass incarceration and racial disparities in the criminal justice system; and

Whereas, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and many other leaders have encouraged the church to have "difficult conversations" around race; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Greater Milwaukee Synod memorialize the 2016 Churchwide Assembly:

1. To request that the ELCA affirm unequivocally that BLACK LIVES MATTER;
2. To request that the ELCA support the 10-point policy solutions of Campaign Zero (an advocacy effort of activists, protesters and researchers focused on police violence) as a faithful expression of public church and advocacy;¹
3. To request that the ELCA encourage all congregations to engage the 10-point policy solutions in education, lobbying, and direct action.

*Website at: <http://www.joincampaignzero.org/>

¹ The 10-points are: 1) End Broken-Windows Policing; 2) Community Oversight; 3) Limit Use of Force; 4) Independently Investigate & Prosecute; 5) Community Representation; 6) Body Cameras/Film the Police; 7) Training; 8) End For-Profit Policing; 9) Demilitarization; 10) Fair Police Union Contracts.