

Resolution of Welcome

WHEREAS, the Gospel of Mark speaks the word of Christ to all of us, saying, “Go into the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation,” and in Romans 15:7 Saint Paul writes, “welcome one another therefore, as Christ has welcomed you for the glory of God”; and

WHEREAS, the Lutheran church is called to offer a word of grace, welcome and hospitality to people of all sexual orientations; and

WHEREAS, such an affirmation would encourage all members of our synod to share the Good News of God’s unconditional love with those not in the church; and

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Lutheran Youth Organization (SEPA LYO) is in a synod which is Reconciling in Christ and wishes to show its alignment with the ideals of the synod; and

WHEREAS, the members of the SEPA LYO want to be affirming in their relationship with all youth; and

WHEREAS, SEPA LYO wishes to show support for the national LYO which is considering passing a resolution to be Reconciling in Christ; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that SEPA LYO welcomes people of all sexual orientations into the membership of the organization; and be it further

RESOLVED, that SEPA LYO encourages youth of all sexual orientations to share in the spiritual and general life of the organization; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the SEPA LYO encourages congregations in the SEPA synod to adopt a welcome statement for members of all sexual orientations.

Passed unanimously at LYO Convention February 8, 2003