

Subject: Resolution to Change the Days of the Synod Assembly
Source: Crossroads Conference

Whereas, one time each year the entire synod of the South Dakota Synod gathers for the work of the church, and

Whereas, this work is vital to the health, mission and ministry of not only the SD Synod but also of Churchwide - ELCA and the worldwide community, and

Whereas, the ELCA has had demographic guidelines in place for sexuality and fair representation since it's start in 1988, and

Whereas, the business of the South Dakota Synod Assembly includes voting on many matters relating to the work of the church including resolutions, social statements, mission focus and budget concerns, and

Whereas, holding the assembly on a weekday (Friday) means that many working members of the SD Synod of the ELCA must then take a day off of work, and

Whereas, the socio-economic condition and status of either the self-employed, flexibly employed, or retired does not reflect a true representation of the synod, and

Whereas, it would be powerful for the congregations of our synod to take one Sunday a year to be totally lay led to free up pastors for engagement **in** the synod assembly, and

Whereas, the decisions, focus and future of the church should be accessible to all who would like to serve, including youth,

Whereas, in S7.11.01 of the synod's bylaws it states, "The time and place of the South Dakota Synod Assembly shall be determined by the Synod Council."

Therefore, be it resolved; that the South Dakota Synod Assembly direct the Synod Council for consideration and possible action moving the days of future Synod Assemblies to a Saturday through Sunday gathering time format.