

INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR PEOPLE OF AFRICAN DESCENT

Social Policy Resolution
CA11.03.12



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Resolved

To receive with gratitude the memorials of the Central/Southern Illinois, Northeastern Ohio, Southeastern Pennsylvania, and Virginia synods related to the International Year for People of African Descent;

To affirm these memorials and request that the presiding bishop of this church issue a statement acknowledging the International Year for People of African Descent and encouraging congregations to participate through prayer, ministry, forums, and presentations, as well as artistic, cultural, and worship expressions that affirm the gifts of people of African Descent;

To ask that the director for racial justice collaborate with the ELCA Church Council, congregations, synod anti-racism teams, strategy teams, ethnic associations, ELCA colleges and universities, and ELCA seminaries to deepen efforts to eradicate racism by examining the factors that inhibit people of color and/or whose primary language is other than English from experiencing the fullness of leadership and inclusion in this church;

To request the Global Mission and Congregational and Synodical Mission units to recognize this International Year in upcoming events; and

To anticipate that the director for racial justice and the staff of the Lutheran Office for World Community at the United Nations will monitor the events of the International Year for People of African Descent and provide current information for the ELCA website.

Adopted by the Churchwide Assembly in August 2011