

WHEREAS, Thrivent Financial has adopted a “Neutrality Policy” which it announced on February 6, 2014 which explicitly bars giving “Choice Dollars” by Thrivent members to entities that work with “organizations with a primary purpose of providing services for or advocating positions either supporting or opposing certain social, politically partisan, or health and human services causes and issues, such as abortion, sexual orientation, or guns,” and

WHEREAS, Thrivent Financial is not consistent with its own stated “Neutrality Policy” by allowing organizations such as Focus on the Family with its attacks against GLBT families and individuals to receive “Choice Dollars,” and

WHEREAS, Thrivent “Choice Dollars” are intended to be given at the direction of individual policy holders, who can make their own decisions about where their charitable giving should be directed, and

WHEREAS, the ELCA has been central in shaping the fraternal side of Thrivent’s charitable giving since the beginning of its existence, and

WHEREAS, the \_\_\_\_\_ Synod is a Reconciling in Christ Synod “committed to the inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities,” therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the \_\_\_\_\_ Synod protest in writing the current “Neutrality Policy” of Thrivent Financial, and encourage the board of Thrivent Financial to either remove anti-gay organizations from those eligible to receive “Choice Dollars” or amend its “Neutrality Policy” to allow for individual freedom and choice in supporting charitable giving without restriction, i.e. return to the previous policy.

*Submitted by*