

Criminal Justice Social Statement

+ Bishop Jon Anderson

The theme of the next social statement will be on *Criminal Justice*. This is just beginning. In late February we will see the proposal for a social statement on *genetics*. This statement will develop over the next three years.

The *Criminal Justice Group* has created a study document that is yours free to download, use and give feedback. I am looking for a group of people who are interested in this beyond the people serve as judges, law enforcement officers and lawyers. Those folks closest to this issue I am also interested in engaging as this statement develops.

<http://www.elca.org/What-We-Believe/Social-Issues/Social-Statements-in-Process/Criminal-Justice.aspx>

Here is the text you will find on the web page:

“The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is preparing a social statement that addresses issues in criminal justice. The 2013 Churchwide Assembly, it is anticipated, will consider the proposed social statement. This is the place to learn about its development and to find resources for thinking about the issues. ***Hearing the Cries: Faith and Criminal Justice*** is a study written by the Criminal Justice Task Force of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and published by the ELCA. It is an invitation to join this church’s moral deliberation on a major social issue that not only affects millions of our neighbors whom we are called by God to love and serve, but also many in our congregations.”