

Resolution 10.04

Regarding Conference South Africa Partnership Committees

WHEREAS, the Southwestern Minnesota Synod, ELCA, has established an ongoing partnership with the South-Eastern Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa (ELCSA) through the Companion Synod Team; and

WHEREAS, each conference in the synod has been assigned the task of developing a partnership with one of the circuits of the South-Eastern Diocese of the ELCSA; and

WHEREAS, recent visits by representatives from the diocese to the synod and visits by both lay and clergy from the synod to the diocese have made manifest the power and potential of this partnership with our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Christ in South Africa; and

WHEREAS, members of our synod have learned from our South Africa journeys that the expectations for meaningful interchange and tangible results from our partnership are high among our South Africa neighbors; and

WHEREAS, all of our conferences and congregations have much to learn from the vibrant faith and dedication of our South Africa brothers and sisters; and

WHEREAS, all the congregations in our synod, adding strength in numbers, have much to contribute in talent and resources to help meet important needs of our South Africa neighbors; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that each congregation be strongly encouraged to elect or appoint at least one representative to serve on the Conference South Africa Partnership Committee; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the representatives regularly attend meetings of the Conference South Africa Partnership Committee and report to their home congregation; and be it further

RESOLVED, that each congregation be actively engaged in the support of this long-term partnership for mutual benefit.

Submitted by the Minnesota Valley Conference