

## **Resolution Encouraging Congregations to Hold an Annual LSS Sunday**

WHEREAS the constitution of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), Chapter Four, STATEMENT OF PURPOSE, states that: “to participate in God’s mission, this church shall...Establish, support, and recognize institutions and agencies that minister to people in spiritual and temporal needs” (C4.03); and

WHEREAS Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan traces its origin to 1882, when Pastor E.J. Homme opened a home for orphaned children in Wittenberg, Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS LSS currently operates over 260 programs in 115 communities throughout Wisconsin and Upper Michigan; and

WHEREAS in the La Crosse Area Synod LSS offers several programs, including adoption and pregnancy services, foster care, family interaction services, runaway and homeless youth (RAYS), autism support and referral, conditional release programs with the Department of Corrections; and

WHEREAS the partnership between congregations of this synod and LSS, as exhibited through prayer, volunteers, in-kind donations of space and resources, and financial support, is invaluable in meeting the needs of the over 100,000 people impacted by LSS each year; therefore be it

RESOLVED by the La Crosse Area Synod that congregations of this synod be encouraged to observe an annual Lutheran Social Services Sunday where this ministry of the church is remembered in prayer, information on the breadth and scope of services is shared, and an opportunity for financial support is made available.

Submitted by the Synod Church in Society Committee.