

Resolution 17-2a

Resolution on Ethiopian Suffering

(submitted by the Laurentian Conference, proposed by Rev. Berhanu Wedajo Alengo)

Whereas, we believe in a God who loves and desires to heal the suffering of everyone on earth; and

Whereas, the current Ethiopian government

- Harasses people in violation of their constitutional rights
- Confiscates and destroys homes leaving residents helpless on the street
- Indiscriminately kills people
- Deprives people of their human rights; and

Whereas, the current Ethiopian government imprisons persons simply for protesting against an unjust administration; and

Whereas, the US government is providing military assistance to the current government of Ethiopia, that is reported to be used to kill men, women, and children; and

Whereas, the current Ethiopian regime uses martial law to subdue and control citizens, which prevents the development of the county;

Therefore, be it resolved, That the congregations and members of the Northeastern Minnesota Synod (NE MN) be encouraged to hold our brothers and sisters in Ethiopia in prayer and educate ourselves about their plight; and

Be it further resolved, that NE MN synod direct its conferences and Bishop to bring these concerns before legislative leaders, and

Be it further resolved, that the congregations and members of the NE MN synod be encouraged to contact their elected state and federal leaders and the President of the United States urging their elected leaders demand

- Oversight of US humanitarian aid to the hungry, sick, and naked in Ethiopia
- That the US Government stop any form of military aid to Ethiopia
- An end to martial law in Ethiopia
- And advocate that political prisoners in Ethiopia be given fair trials under the observation of the international community, and those found innocent are released; and

Be it further resolved, that the NE MN Synod memorialize this resolution to the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly.