

2007 Churchwide Assembly
Action Regarding “Peace Not Walls” Campaign¹

Note: On June 30 by a vote of 697-245, the 10th ELCA Churchwide Assembly reaffirmed the 2005 Assembly’s call of the Peace Not Walls campaign as well as adding some specifics about how to engage this in practice.

1. To receive the memorials from the Pacifica Synod, Metropolitan New York Synod, Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana Synod, New England Synod, Southeast Michigan Synod, and Metropolitan Chicago Synod and to thank them for their support of efforts by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to promote peace with justice in the Holy Land;
2. To note the participation of the ELCA in ecumenical and inter-religious forums where religious extremism is addressed;
3. To acknowledge the Churchwide Strategy for Engagement in Israel and Palestine, including its call for “increased engagement with conservative Christians and a clearer and more forceful expression of Lutheran theology in the public debate . . .”; and
4. To call upon the ELCA, in all of its expressions, to recommit itself to the Churchwide Strategy for Engagement in Israel and Palestine through awareness-building, accompaniment, and advocacy activities, including pilgrimage visits, sustained financial support, and other forms of economic stewardship; and
5. To call upon the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to underscore the call for economic initiatives by this church and its members in the “Peace, Not Walls” campaign. Such initiatives, in consultation with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, could include:
 - purchasing of products from Palestinian providers and
 - exploration of the feasibility of refusing to buy products produced in Israeli settlements. Also to be explored is the entire investment activity by this church. Examination of investments would exclude the option of divestiture.

¹ From *2007 Churchwide Assembly Minutes*, 335-336.