

1 **South-Central Synod of Wisconsin, 2016 Assembly, Resolution #4**

2 **Justice for the Holy Land through Responsible Investment**

3 Whereas the continued occupation of the Palestinian Territories by the State of  
4 Israel, the ongoing building of Israeli settlements in the Palestinian  
5 Territories, and other activities associated with this occupation and  
6 settlement deny the fundamental human rights of Palestinians, and  
7 violate international law as set forth in the United Nations Charter, the  
8 Fourth Geneva Convention and the International Covenant on Civil  
9 and Political Rights; and

10 Whereas the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's "Peace Not Walls: Stand  
11 for Justice in the Holy Land," strategy advocates for human rights for all  
12 people in the Holy Land and an end to Israeli settlement building and  
13 the occupation of Palestinian land; and

14 Whereas Palestinian Christians, in "Kairos Palestine," called on churches of the  
15 world to "stand alongside the oppressed" and work to end "the sin of  
16 occupation imposed upon us;" and

17 Whereas multiple sources, including the American Friends Service Committee's  
18 investment screening database, confirm that certain multinational  
19 corporations, including Caterpillar, HP Inc., Hewlett Packard Enterprise,  
20 Motorola Solutions, and G4S have been complicit in the occupation  
21 and its associated human rights abuses; and

22 Whereas three of the ELCA's full communion partners - the Presbyterian Church  
23 USA, the United Church of Christ, and the United Methodist Church -  
24 have each voted within the past two years to divest funds from these  
25 and other companies and banks that profit from or are complicit in  
26 human rights violations arising from the occupation; therefore, be it

27 **RESOLVED** that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin ELCA Assembly request that  
28 the Congregational and Synodical Mission Unit of the Evangelical  
29 Lutheran Church in America direct the Corporate Social Responsibility  
30 Team to develop guidelines that will screen out investments in  
31 companies profiting from, or complicit in, human rights violations arising  
32 from the occupation, , and provide a report with possible  
33 recommendations to the November 2016 meeting of the ELCA Church  
34 Council, and forward the guidelines to the separately incorporated  
35 ministries, agencies, and institutions of the ELCA for implementation as  
36 appropriate; and be it further

37 **RESOLVED** that the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin ELCA Assembly encourage its  
38 members and congregations to learn about their own investments and  
39 to intentionally invest in ways that are consistent with their faith and  
40 goals, including examining divestment from companies profiting from,  
41 or complicit in, human rights violations arising from the occupation,  
42 such as Caterpillar, HP Inc., Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Motorola  
43 Solutions, and G4S, until such time as those companies no longer profit  
44 from the occupation or cease operations in the illegal settlements.

45 *Submitted by Christine Anderson, A.I.M., Rev. Katie Baardseth, Rev. JoAnn Fabie,*  
46 *Rev. Jerry Folk, Rev. Tim Hansen, Rev. Peder Johanson, Rev. Julie Krahn,*  
47 *Ann Leon, Rev. Larry Pinnow, Rev. Blake Rohrer, Rev. Susan Schneider,*  
48 *Rev. Emily Tveite, Rev. Nick Utphall, Yvonne Smith, Joyce Anderson,*  
49 *Virginia Bormett, Susan Gruber, Bill Kessler, Cheryl Krull, Gayle Perlberg,*  
50 *Karen Schultz, Randall Schultz, Jeff Simon, Rev. Jeff Wild, Nancy Wild.*

51 *Reference and Counsel Committee recommends adoption.*