

**Congregational Statement**  
**re ELCICSame-Sex-Blessings Resolution Proposal**  
First Evangelical Lutheran Church Toronto

1. On March 9, 2005 we received communications from the National Church Office via the internet on same-sex blessings.  
During the month of April, our congregation has met for 10 special study sessions of about 90 minutes each to study the booklet of essays and accompanying study guide.
2. With deep sadness we report to you today that we must **REJECT** the Resolution on Same-Sex-Blessings, since it is clearly contradictory to the testimony of Holy Scripture as well as natural law, and presents a serious departure from the common Christian tradition of 2000 years.
3. We therefore believe it to be our duty to warn the delegates to the National Church Convention and urge them soundly to **DEFEAT** this resolution.
4. This congregation strongly requests the National Church Council take notice of this action and **PUBLISH** our congregational statement in the body of additional contributions solicited from congregations (with an April 30, 2005 deadline) for information and further study. We also ask for a prompt response to this request.

MOVED by Hans J Fraenkel

SECONDED by Bruno Hesas

Adopted in a duly called Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, April 24, 2005

With 54 votes in favour

30 votes opposed

And 1 abstention.

President: Rolf Kolossa

Secretary: Manya Brunzema