

**Resolution: 5**  
**Recommendation of the Resolutions Committee: Do pass**  
**Action Taken: Adopted**  
(yes = 301, no = 79, abstain = 27)

**Subject: Resolution Concerning the Termination of the Augsburg Fortress Pension Plan**  
**Source: Rev. Daniel Ostercamp, St. John's Lutheran Church, Webster, South Dakota**  
**and Prairie Coteau Conference**

**Whereas**, "Augsburg Fortress Publishers, a separately incorporated program unit of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America"), a unit of this church, terminated its defined benefit pension plan by action of its Board of Trustees in December 2009; and

**Whereas**, the termination of the Augsburg Fortress defined benefit pension plan has adversely affected approximately 500 present and former employees; and

**Whereas**, individuals have asked about the background and reasons for the actions of the Augsburg Fortress Board of Trustees, and it is important to provide accurate and complete information regarding the termination; therefore be it

**Resolved**, that the South Dakota Synod, in assembly, ask its Synod Council and Synod Bishop to express deep concern to the ELCA Church Council and Presiding Bishop about the burdens that have been placed upon the past and present faithful servants of our church's publishing house; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the South Dakota Synod, in Assembly, directs the South Dakota Synod Council to ask the ELCA Church Council to seek means of restoring pension funds for the past and present faithful servants who were promised annuity benefits through the Augsburg Fortress Pension Plan; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the South Dakota Synod, in assembly, directs the South Dakota Synod Council to ask the ELCA Church Council to conduct a review of the actions of management and trustees, of Augsburg Fortress Publishers, regarding the background, reasons for and implications of the termination of its defined benefits plan, and to report on the results of the review at the November 2010 meeting of the Church Council; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the South Dakota Synod, in assembly, direct the Synod Council to forward this resolution to the Church Council for consideration and possible action.