**Resolution 4-01**

**To Request Cessation of Publication of *Luther’s Large Catechism with Annotations and Contemporary Applications (LLCACA)***

Whereas, Romans 16:17 says, “Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them;” and

Whereas, 1 Timothy 2:12 says, “And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence;” and

Whereas, Galatians 5:9 says, “A little leaven leavens the whole lump;” ; and

Whereas, *LLCACA* was created in response to a request by the Synod in convention, tasking the CTCR (Commission on Theology and Church Relations) with producing a new edition of the Large Catechism with explanations to aid understanding; and

Whereas, According to online advertising for *LLCACA*, it was "Developed and written primarily for Lutheran pastors, church workers, and seminary students." (CPH Product Description); and

Whereas, The introduction in *LLCACA* says, “Luther’s Large Catechism itself, together with the annotations and essays that follow, seeks to teach the baptized. This is not a book primarily for pastors, though we hope it will be a helpful resource for all called church workers, including pastors. This is for the whole church – for the ordinary layperson who wants to grow deeper in faith and understanding and be able to give ‘a reason for the hope that is in you’ (1 Peter 3:15). It is the goal of this book both to edify or build up readers with a deeper understanding of God’s Word and to equip them with knowledge so they can respond to challenges to the confession of the Lord’s truth in our culture.” (General Introduction by John T. Pless and Larry M. Vogel, Editors). *LLCACA* is therefore a Catechetical book for laity as well as clergy, teaching everyone and anyone the faith taught in our Catechism; and

Whereas, There was nonetheless an indiscriminate use of authors to teach our clergy and lay people; and

Whereas, Women teachers contributed to *LLCACA*, and were thus put in the position of catechizing our lay people, seminarians, and pastors (whether the ladies’ content is good or not); and

Whereas, Because *LLCACA* is intended to teach our people the true faith, it is especially a very serious cause of offense that at least one author from outside our Synod was allowed to catechize our people by writing essays in *LLCACA*; and

Whereas, This individual, Steven Paulson, who is an ELCA pastor, following the teachings of Gerhard Forde said, “The stupefied atonement question -Why could God not just up and forgive? - is answered simply: He did!” (*The Essential Forde: Distinguishing Law and Gospel,* eds. Nicholas Hopman, Mark C. Mattes, and Steven D. Paulson, Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2019, p. 29); and

Whereas, Paulson rejects the so-called “legal scheme” of the vicarious satisfaction throughout his book Lutheran Theology, thereby rejecting vicarious satisfaction as confessed in many places in the Book of Concord; and

Whereas, Paulson, as a teacher in the ELCA, publicly stands with the official teachings of the ELCA, including denying the inerrancy of Scripture, acceptance of women and gay clergy, etc.; and

Whereas, Perhaps most dangerously, even if Paulson’s words in *LLCACA* happen to be orthodox by themselves, by using him as a teacher in an official publication, laymen may be unsuspectingly led to assume that the Synod endorses him and that there is nothing wrong with his theology thereby leading them to read more of his harmful materials; therefore be it

*Resolved*,That the Montana District in convention memorialize CPH to cease the sale of *LLCACA* as it currently exists.