

# CONTINUING RESOLUTION

## CR12.04.C01. CONGREGATION LIFE RELATIONS WITH FRATERNALS AND TRINITY PROFESSIONALS

WHEREAS, fraternal Lutheran insurance/investment companies have supported Lutheran churches in America for over 100 years; and

WHEREAS, such 'non-profit' corporations are required by law to distribute their gains to support Lutheran church ministries, including individuals, congregations, colleges, seminaries, synods and the national church; and

WHEREAS, resources received by this congregation and our members from these fraternal have included pewter baptismal shells, confirmation crosses, church holy day dioramas for children, bookmarks, college and seminary scholarships, napkins and cups, Christian parenting videotapes, calendars, money for special events, matching funds, community needs and disaster relief; and

WHEREAS, these fraternal also make available a variety of workshops and seminars, dealing with issues such as wills and estate planning, nursing homes, home safety, finances for newly-married, planning for retirement, tax law, etc.; and

WHEREAS, this congregation is grateful for the resources, educational and faith building opportunities afforded it by fraternal Lutheran companies, and is at the same time aware of other professionals who are members of this congregation that offer similar expertise and products and does not wish to elevate select companies, services or products above others;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Congregation Council of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Latrobe, PA shall use the following guidelines in order to balance fraternal resources available to this congregation with opportunity for involvement by other professional members of this congregation.

### I. WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND PRESENTATIONS

Such events to this congregation by a fraternal Lutheran company, Trinity member professional, or other firm/organization shall:

1. Receive prior approval from the Congregation Council.
2. Have an invitation for participation extended to other professionals who are members of this congregation with similar interests or expertise in the subject matter.
3. Be related to a committee of the Congregation Council, Congregation Committee, or organization within this congregation (C14.01., e.g., WELCA or Trinity Senior Citizens). Such oversight committee or organization shall have final determination as to the roles and supporting services of all event participants.
4. Avoid solicitation of specific products or services. Printed name for recognition on promotional items or acknowledgement for services provided to this congregation is not considered solicitation of products or services.

### II. RESOURCES

Resources, either requested by or donated to this congregation, from a fraternal Lutheran company, Trinity member professional, or other firm/organization shall:

1. Be coordinated through the called ministry staff of this congregation who shall make determination as to the appropriateness and use of such resources. Should any such determination by the called ministry staff be challenged by a member(s) of this congregation, the Congregation Council shall have final determination as to the appropriateness and use of any donated resources.

2. Avoid solicitation of specific products or services. Printed name for recognition on promotional items is not considered solicitation of products or services, but rather an acknowledgement of gift to this congregation.