

Justice Seekers' Proposal Regarding Christ the Servant's Membership in Faith Action Network

To help fulfill our Statement of Purpose as articulated in our Constitution, which includes declarations that the Congregation shall:

- ...Foster and participate in interdependent relationships with other congregations, the synod, and the churchwide organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (C4.03.h)
- ...Foster and participate in ecumenical relationships consistent with churchwide policy (C4.03.i),

AND, in keeping with the ECLA's statements concerning faith and public life:

As members of the ELCA, we believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. God uses our hands, through our direct service work and our voices, through our advocacy efforts, to restore and reconcile our world. Through faithful advocacy, the ELCA lives out our Lutheran belief that governments can help advance the common good.

ELCA advocacy works for change in public policy based on the experience of Lutheran ministries, programs and projects around the world and in communities across the United States. We work through political channels on behalf of the following biblical values: peacemaking, hospitality to strangers, care for creation, and concern for people living in poverty and struggling with hunger and disease,

the Justice Seekers Committee of CTS recommends to our Church Council that:

1. CTS joins over 140 other communities of faith from differing perspectives, including Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and others, as an Advocating Faith Community of Faith Action Network (FAN), a statewide non-partisan group that gives us all a faith-based voice in the halls of power. CTS would become the third member of the "Bellingham Cluster" along with Garden Street Methodist and First Congregational Churches. We also recognize that our Synod Bishop, Kirby Unti, is an active supporter of FAN serving as a member of its Interfaith Leadership Council.
2. While no dues are required, we also recommend that CTS provide a good faith donation of \$250 to accompany our membership, linked to FAN's recent fundraiser where Rick Steves provides an equal match.

See attached list of FAN's member Advocating Faith Communities

Respectfully submitted,

Justice Seekers Committee of CTS

December 18, 2018