

Human Sexuality - Gift and Trust Study Process

In 2022, the Churchwide Assembly [authorized two reconsiderations](#) (see pages 4-5 and 11 of this Assembly action summary) of the [Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust](#) (2009) social statement:

- Reconsideration #1: A review of specific text references that “would consider the import that marriage legally is now a covenant between individuals;” review specific wording “in light of public acceptance of marriage of same-gender and gender-non-conforming couples;” and “consider references to diversity of family configurations;” and
- Reconsideration #2: A fresh consideration of the “church’s current concept of the four positions of bound conscience” found on pages 19-21 of *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust*.

In the Spring of 2024, the ELCA Church Council Executive Committee seated a task force, which immediately began work on the first reconsideration. The task force represents a diversity of perspectives, backgrounds, and experiences. Click [here](#) to learn about task force members. The task

Current Social Writing Projects

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FAQs - Two Reconsiderations of Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust

Frequently Asked Questions on the Two Reconsiderations of Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust

[View FAQs](#)

Church Council at the start of the work.

Consistent with ELCA protocol, the results of the task force's work on Reconsideration #1, which are simply editorial, are now available for public comment and feedback. Receiving feedback from across the church is a vital step in discerning together. Your perspective matters.

Below are links to the draft edits, an explanation of the draft edits, and a survey for you to share your feedback with the task force. Please prayerfully consider contributing to this important step. Talk about the draft edits in a group study or read them on your own. Your participation will help our church discern together where God is calling us.

Resources

The full social statement with the draft edits can be downloaded [here](#). Each draft edit is highlighted in yellow and underlined in the document. Please remember that these are draft edits at this time, intended for comment and response. A Spanish translation of the social statement and the draft edits can be downloaded [here](#).

A table of explanations of each draft edit can be found [here](#). In the table, each draft edit is listed in the left column, with a short explanation of the edit in the right column. This is also available in Spanish [here](#) and in large-print [here](#).

expresses ELCA teaching on human sexuality. The statement is grounded in the biblical witness to the relationship God establishes with creation as a model for relationships between human beings.

[Read Now](#)

you can find a printable copy [here](#). Surveys must be received by January 31, 2025.

For group study of the draft edits, a brief group discussion guide with tips for leading conversations is available [here](#). Click [here](#) for a Spanish translation of the guide. Click [here](#) for a large-print version.

You can read an FAQ about the task force's work [here](#). The FAQs are also available in Spanish (click [here](#)) and in large-print (click [here](#)). Questions or comments for the task force also can be sent to reconsiderations@elca.org. While not every email will receive a reply, each email about the draft edits and the process will be shared with members of the task force. A Spanish translation and Large Print copies of the draft edits and related materials will be coming shortly.

Related Resources

Click [here](#) for a full text of the social statement [Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust](#) as originally adopted in 2009.



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