

To:  
ELCL Collegium of Bishops  
ELCL Capitula  
ELCL Executive Board

From:  
Association of Lutheran Women  
Theologians in Latvia (ALWTL)  
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Copies to:  
Archbishop E.E. Rozitis,  
LELC Outside Latvia  
LWF, Women's Desk

4 May 2010

#### Reminder and Proposal

We remind you that already on 18 January 2010 the ALWTL sent a letter to the ELCL Collegium of Bishops, ELCL Capitula and ELCL Executive Board with a proposal to delay the planned vote on changes to Par. 76 of the Constitution that deals with women's ordination, until 2013. We invited you to renew theological discussions about the issue of women's ordination and expressed proposals for a possible way that these discussions could be organized. At the end of the letter, we kindly requested that you send us an answer within one month's time.

Since we have not yet received an answer to our letter, then we repeatedly request you to send a written answer in one month's time. We wish to know in what manner will be organized the discussions about the changes in the Constitution and in what manner will take place the theological discussions about women's ordination.

An answer from you would indeed correspond to the highest examples of Christian ethics and would be an affirmation that our Church respects also a different opinion about the understanding of ordained ministry, thus giving the possibility of a positive beginning for a new period of discussions within ELCL about the issue of women's ordination.

Respectfully yours,

On behalf of the ALWTL

Board President

Rudīte Losāne

(Signature & ALWTL stamp)

The ALWTL was founded in 1995. It currently joins together 40 members. 7 are active ELCL evangelists and chaplains; 1 is an active pastor, 1 – assistant pastor, 1 – pastor emeritus; 8 women who were once ELCL evangelists, deaconesses, serving students but left active work due to the ELCL's attitude toward women's ordination; 9 are women theologians from Latvia who have in the past 14 years emigrated and become pastors in the Latvian Church Outside Latvia; 2 are women who were ordained in the Latvian Church Outside Latvia, but who have

returned to their homeland but have not been allowed to serve in the ELCL; 9 are serving the Latvian Church Outside Latvia as pastors, deaconesses and deans. Within our midst are 4 women with doctor of theology degrees. The number of ALWTL members, since its founding, has not diminished, but grows and continues to grow.