WHEREAS, the Message on Suicide Prevention was approved by the Church Council on November 14, 1999; and

WHEREAS, the number of suicides in the United States has increased over 20 percent in the past ten years; and

WHEREAS, the economic malaise engulfing our country, coupled with the impending increase in the number of returning veterans as U.S. engagement in foreign conflicts winds down, enhances the potential for increased suicides; and

WHEREAS, addressing suicide prevention is important; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the 2011 Churchwide Assembly call upon all expressions of this church, as appropriate, to seek ways to deal with this issue consistent with the Message on Suicide Prevention.

Adopted by the Churchwide Assembly in August 2011