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Statement of the South Dakota Synod, ELCA

The South Dakota Synod, ELCA, has received reports involving alleged inappropriate sexual contact with children by Pastor Floyd Bacon, deceased in 1997. We have been in contact with victims and have been disclosing information as we can to several congregations. This disclosure is part of our church policy. It is done to provide information, to offer support, and to begin a healing process.

The South Dakota Synod does not tolerate inappropriate sexual conduct of any kind by members of the clergy. We value the safety of our church homes for all people, including our children.

Our trust is in God who promises to see us through every difficulty, and whose healing presence can restore us. This church's commitment is to stand with victims of such abuse, to support them through their experiences, and to support them toward wholeness again.

August 20, 2007

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Equipping Leaders * Encouraging Ministry * Engaging in Mission

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