

*The following resolution was adopted by the 2009 Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Assembly during its Spring Session on May 8-9 at the Kellogg Conference Center of Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. "Whereas" clauses are listed as background for voting members. The Assembly votes on "resolved" clauses only.*

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### **Expression of Thanks and Gratitude**

WHEREAS, the faculty and staff of Gallaudet University, and the staff at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, Washington, D.C., have served as gracious hosts for the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Assembly, providing facilities and support for this 2009 Synod Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 Assembly Planning Committee and many others have worked many hours to prepare for this assembly; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod in Assembly express its gratitude and extend its heartfelt thanks to God and to all whose support and efforts have made this Synod Assembly an efficient and joyful gathering of God's people, including:

- the faculty and staff of Gallaudet University, and the staff at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, Washington, D.C.;
- the Reverend Amy Thompson Sevimli, Assistant to the Bishop;
- Dr. Tommie L. Robinson, Jr., Vice President of the Synod; the Reverend Dr. Marguerite Rourk, Secretary of the Synod; and Mr. John Handley, Treasurer of the Synod;
- Ms. Amy Acland for registration and on-site administrative support;
- the Synod office staff: Ms. Amy Acland, Ms. Karen Krueger, Mr. Harold Sargeant and their team of volunteers for their "behind the scenes" work so important to this assembly;
- the Reverend Walter May, representing the Presiding Bishop and the church wide ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA);
- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for the generous grant for the voting devices;
- the Synod Assembly Planning Committee, under the leadership of the Reverend Robert Driver Bishop and the Reverend Terri Driver Bishop;
- Ms. Debbie Streicher for her work as the volunteer Media Coordinator;
- the Nominating Committee under the leadership of the Reverend Steven Buechler;

- the Elections Committee under the leadership of the Reverend Bill Nienstedt;
- the Assembly parliamentarian, Mr. Richard Ahlberg;
- the Reverend Richard H. Graham for leading the assembly in Bible study;
- Andrew Genszler, Director for Advocacy and Director for the ELCA Washington Office Church in Society
- the Reverend Dr. Phil Hirsch for sharing the mission initiatives in our synod;
- those who facilitated the workshops;
- the Assembly Worship Planning Team, led by the Reverend Scott McAnally;
  - presiders and preachers: the Reverend Richard Graham; the sacristans – the Rev. Kimberly S. Conway and the Rev. Kate Murray;
  - the musicians: Dr. Jeffery Pannebaker, AIM; Good Shepherd Chancel Choir, Mr. Peter Schmidt, director (Good Shepherd-Gaithersburg, MD), Reformation Bell Choir, Ms. Edie Venit, director (St. Luke-Silver Spring, MD); Monumental Brass Quintet, Pat Whitehead, director;
  - the liturgical dancers, Miss Laura Hempe and Miss Megan Bruening, the Rev. Sarah Scherschligt, coordinator;
  - Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg, MD for the use of their chancel furniture
  - and all others who assisted in our worship life;
- those who permitted their names to be placed before this assembly for election to the Synod Council, the Committee on Discipline, and the Synod Vice President;
- those who are completing their terms of service on the Synod Council:
  - Ms. Jane Bossler
  - the Reverend Jane Halpern
  - the Reverend Justin Lathrop
  - the Reverend Marda Messick
  - Mr. Phillip Moeller
  - The Rev. Kendell Summers
  - Ms. Barbara Topel
  - Mr. John White
- ecumenical guests who attended the assembly:
  - the Reverend Dr. John R. Deninger, First Vice President, Southeastern District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod;
  - the Reverend David Bennett, President, Eastern District Executive Board, Moravian Church, Northern Province;
  - the Reverend Richard McFail, Stated Clerk, National Capital Presbytery;
  - the Right Reverend John Bryson Chane, Bishop, Diocese of Washington, ECUSA

- the Right Reverend David C. Jones, Bishop Suffragan, Episcopal Diocese of Virginia;
- the Reverend Tom Joyce, Assistant to the Bishop, Virginia Council of Churches;
- the Reverend Clark Lobenstine, InterFaith Conference of Metropolitan D.C.; and,
- the Reverend Richard H. Graham, Bishop of the Synod, for his leadership of this assembly, and his wife, Nancy Ann, for her faithful support of our bishop and this church.