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3 Received by the Secretary of the Synod May 13, 2014

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5 **RESOLUTION "I Love Camp" Month**

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7 Submitted by: Rev. Sarah Scherschligt, Rev. Jeff Wilson, and Rev. Mark Olsen

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9 **WHEREAS,** there is a need and desire to recognize that Mar-Lu-Ridge Camp and  
10 Retreat Center (MLR) and Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp and Retreat  
11 Center (CF) are both ministries of the Metropolitan Washington DC (Metro  
12 DC) Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and

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14 **WHEREAS:** MLR's mission statement is:  
15 We welcome all people to a mountain-top experience of  
16 Christian community that changes lives, makes disciples,  
17 builds friendships, and encourages care of God's creation;  
18 and  
19 CF's mission statement is:  
20 The purpose of Caroline Furnace Lutheran Camp is to  
21 provide an intentional Christian communal experience  
22 where one meets God in God's awesome creation; and

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24 **WHEREAS,** MLR serves annually close to 1000 campers ages 6-17 in its summer camp  
25 programs, and in addition, many family and adult campers during its  
26 summer sessions, and CF serves annually close to 450 campers through its  
27 summer program and Family Camp; and

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29 **WHEREAS,** MLR and CF also offer retreat opportunities year-round to a wide variety of  
30 groups; and

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32 **WHEREAS,** MLR and CF are non-profit ministries, depending upon donations and  
33 fund-raisers to help keep costs affordable as they support current  
34 expenses and employee costs; and

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36 **WHEREAS,** MLR has a 54 year history of positively effecting children's lives and also  
37 has maintained good standing within the American Camp Association;  
38 and CF has a 57 year history and meets all required state standards for  
39 health and safety; and

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41 **WHEREAS,** MLR and CF have created a solid reputation within the Synod and  
42 surrounding areas; therefore be it

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44 **RESOLVED,** that the month of February annually be declared: "I Love Camp" month  
45 within the Metropolitan Washington DC Synod; and be it further

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47 **RESOLVED,** that congregations of the Metropolitan Washington DC Synod are  
48 encouraged to use all manner of communications available to them  
49 (such as announcements, bulletins, newsletters, websites, facebook  
50 pages, and the like) to share and distribute information and materials from  
51 and about Mar-Lu-Ridge and Caroline Furnace, in particular regarding  
52 summer camp; and be it further  
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54 **RESOLVED,** that, at any time, but especially during February, congregations are  
55 encouraged to invite staff members of Mar-Lu-Ridge and Caroline  
56 Furnace, who are willing and able, to speak before them in an effort to  
57 raise awareness of these ministries; and be it further  
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59 **RESOLVED,** that the congregations of the Metropolitan Washington DC Synod are  
60 encouraged to pray for the ministries of Mar-Lu-Ridge and Caroline  
61 Furnace, to seek to partner with them in a variety of ways (including  
62 encouraging their children and youth to attend their summer camps,  
63 using camp facilities for congregation retreats and Council retreats, and  
64 hosting mobile Day Camps in their congregations), and to support Mar-Lu-  
65 Ridge and Caroline Furnace in all ways possible (including participating in  
66 Volunteer Service events at camp and providing direct financial support).