

*The following resolution was adopted by the 2006 Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Assembly held on June 8-10 at Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia. "Whereas" clauses are listed as background for voting members. The Assembly votes on "resolved" clauses only.*

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**Memorial to Amend *Definitions and Guidelines for Discipline*  
and *Vision and Expectations***

WHEREAS, we charitably respect one another as we examine our understandings and practices, speaking the truth in love, demonstrating the (CA01.06.28) "mutual conversation and consolation of the saints" (Luther, *Smalcald Articles*, III.4); and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan, Washington D.C. Synod has affirmed the principles of Reconciling in Christ, making public affirmation that gay and lesbian persons are welcome in our congregations and are invited to participate fully in congregational life and ministry; and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has neither affirmed or prohibited the blessing of committed same-gender unions in the past; and

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Assembly passed a resolution in 2003 recognizing that there are congregations in this Synod that affirm the blessing of committed same-gender unions; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod in Assembly memorialize the 2007 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church America to remove, "Practicing homosexual persons are precluded from the ordained ministry of this church," from *Definitions and Guidelines for Discipline*, and be it further"

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod in Assembly memorialize the 2007 Church Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church America to remove, "Ordained ministers who are homosexual in their self-understanding are expected to abstain from homosexual sexual relationships," from *Vision and Expectations* to be in compliance with *Definitions and Guidelines for Discipline*.