

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.

Namibian Lutheran Churches

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has established a Companion Synod Program linking all 65 ELCA synods with more than 100 international churches, dioceses, or districts; and

WHEREAS, the three Lutheran Church bodies in Namibia: the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN), the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia (ELCRN), and the German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN-GELC) met in June 2005 with four ELCA synods that have Companion Synod relationships with one or more of the three church bodies --- that is, the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod, the Northeastern Iowa Synod, the Southwestern Washington Synod, and the New Jersey Synod --- and drafted a covenant to work together as companions; and

WHEREAS, the Lutheran Churches in Namibia at that meeting announced their intention to move toward closer unity beginning with formation of a joint Church Council; and

WHEREAS, the four ELCA synods wish to support the intention of unity among the Lutheran Churches in Namibia through concrete action; and

WHEREAS, there is no formal ELCA Companion Synod relationship with ELCIN-GELC; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod of the (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) ELCA establish a formal relationship with German Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia (ELCIN-GELC); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod continue to encourage the moves toward unity of all three Lutheran Church bodies responding to the Namibian Lutheran Churches as appropriate; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod's Global Mission Committee continue to work with the three other ELCA synods who are Namibia Companion Synods, accompanying each other to strengthen our current Companion Synod and Sister Congregation relationships and develop new ones as we grow in companionship with the Lutheran Churches in Namibia.