

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.

Pastoral Care for Gay and Lesbian Persons in our Synod

- 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 2005 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) adopted Recommendation One of the ELCA Church Council, committing this church to “seek unity in the midst of our disagreements” over matters of sexuality; 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 Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod embraces the spirit of Recommendation One, cherishing as we do the gift of the communion we share in Jesus Christ; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, that this Synod in Assembly thanks the Bishop of this Synod, staff, and Synod Council for living out the unity in the care and support they continue to offer to all people including the gay and lesbian persons among us – lay, commissioned, consecrated, ordained, single and partnered – receiving their gifts of time, talent, treasure and ministry on their own merits for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ.