

HOPE ALONE

2026 Metro D.C. Synod Assembly
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Gaithersburg
Saturday, June 6



METRO D.C. SYNOD
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA

Resolution Number: 2026 – 003

Date Submitted: April 1, 2026

Title: Gratitude for the Ministry of Katharyn Wheeler

Primary Sponsor: Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Council

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- Whereas,** Katharyn Wheeler has served as the Administrative Assistant to the Bishop for eleven years, offering steady support, faithful leadership and, with a penchant for the Oxford comma, across the tenures of Bishop Richard Graham, Bishop Leila Ortiz, Bishop Philip Hirsch, and alongside numerous staff members; and
- Whereas,** Katharyn has been a gifted and indispensable presence in the life of this Synod, serving as the “go-to” person for countless aspects of ministry, administration, and communication, ensuring that the work of the Church was carried out on time and with excellence and care; and
- Whereas,** Katharyn has contributed significantly to the development and strengthening of youth ministry within the Synod, including the cultivation of Seeker events, Play and Pray activities, the revival of the Lutheran Youth Organization, and the coordination of joint Delaware-Maryland Synod and Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod middle school and high school gatherings; and
- Whereas,** Katharyn has embodied a spirit of service marked by dedication, adaptability, and a deep commitment to the mission of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, enriching the common life of this Synod, and fostering administrative practices that have strengthened its witness, all with the support and love of her family Tom, Edyn and Ren; and
- Whereas,** Katharyn now departs this role to serve the wider church as an ordained Minister of Word and Service as Executive, Office of the Secretary of the ELCA – a transition that is both a loss to this Synod and a sign of the gifts she brings to the broader ministry of this church across the nation; therefore, be it

- RESOLVED** that the Metropolitan Washington, DC Synod gives thanks to God for the faithful service of Katharyn Wheeler, celebrating eleven years of devoted ministry and the many ways in which her work has shaped and strengthened this Synod saying “well done, good and faithful servant!”; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that Deacon Wheeler is commended to this new call with the prayers, confidence, and pride of the Synod, trusting that her gifts will continue to bless the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; and, be it further
- RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be presented to Katharyn and her family and shared with the Synod as an expression of our deep gratitude and abiding appreciation.

