



BOLD & BOUNDLESS

2025 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

June 6-7, 2025

Resolution Number: 2025 – 009

Date Submitted: April 1, 2025

Title: Gifts of Hope

Primary Sponsor: Reference & Counsel Committee, Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod

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- Whereas,** since 1992, the Gifts of Hope, an alternative gift-giving program, has been sponsored by the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and has raised and disbursed almost \$4 million to church camps, local ministries, international companion synods, and local social service agencies affiliated with the Synod. These funds have helped the homeless, the hungry, the young, the elderly, immigrants, refugees, jobseekers, seminary and college students, and those seeking to improve their lives; and
- Whereas,** after great consideration, the Gifts of Hope program has run its natural course and, with decreasing participation, the synod council has decided to end this signature ministry; therefore, be it
- RESOLVED** that the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod in assembly gives thanks to God in celebration of the decades of faithful service and generosity of spirit that the Gifts of Hope program, under the direction of Sue Clark, Carolyn Sowinski, and Natalie Cain, has reflected the love of God for our communities and global partners.