

**Resolution Number 1 2009 Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Assembly**

**"A RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE WEST BANK AND GAZA"**

1 **WHEREAS** great swaths of Palestinian land have been taken by Israel on the West Bank and an  
2 apartheid-like occupation has allowed housing for Israeli Jews, called settlements, and non-Jews  
3 are not allowed to live in these colonies; and  
4

5 **WHEREAS** 11,000 Palestinian prisoners are in Israeli prisons, many of whom have never been  
6 charged; and  
7

8 **WHEREAS** Israel continues to build a wall across Palestinian land; and that wall is four times  
9 as long as the ten foot high Berlin wall, while the twenty-five foot high Israeli wall separates  
10 Palestinian families, homes and businesses and travel through checkpoints is difficult; and  
11

12 **WHEREAS** Gaza is one, large ghetto, an open-air prison, with Israel controlling all exits and  
13 entrances, its air space, and its sea ports, and with meager food and medical supplies allowed to  
14 enter; and  
15

16 **WHEREAS** American taxpayers give Israel approximately \$7,000,000 per day, and Americans  
17 are considered by much of the world as equally responsible for Israeli violations of human rights;  
18 therefore be it  
19

20 **RESOLVED** that the Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod memorialize the Evangelical Lutheran  
21 Church in America in General Assembly, to ask the United States government to give an  
22 accounting of the amount and use of American taxpayer dollars being used by Israel; and be it  
23 further  
24

25 **RESOLVED** that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America encourage and support efforts by  
26 the American government to bring Israel into real negotiations with all of the Palestinian parties  
27 to find a peaceful two state settlement, which includes removal of Israeli West Bank settlements  
28 and returning the land to the Palestinians, and further to give the Palestinians in Gaza control and  
29 freedom in their own land; and be it further  
30

31 **RESOLVED** that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ask the U.S. government to  
32 open an investigation on the financial support and alleged Foreign Policy interference by  
33 American Christian Zionism in the West Bank and Gaza.

Submitted by,  
*Rev. Roger W. Pettenger*  
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*February 23, 2009*

**Resolution Passed (SA.0905.02)**

2009 Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Assembly - May 2, 2009