

“A RESOLUTION CONCERNING FURTHER SUPPORT OF OUR
COMPANION SYNOD: THE ULANGA KILOMBERO DIOCESE OF THE
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN TANZANIA”

1 **WHEREAS**, in 1990 when the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) began the Companion
2 Synod program, the Eastern Washington and Idaho (EWAID) Synod was linked with the Ulanga
3 Kilombero Diocese (UKD) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT); and
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5 **WHEREAS**, the purpose behind the establishment of the Companion Synod program was that both
6 partners would benefit; that each gives and each receives; that we offer prayer, study, communication,
7 exchange, advocacy, as well as financial support; that we are challenged by experiencing cultures and
8 ways of life and worship very different from our own; and that we grow in rich relationships with our
9 brothers and sisters from thousands of miles away; and
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11 **WHEREAS**, our relationship with our companion synod has grown since Bishop Keller’s trip to UKD in
12 1992 to include visits from our Tanzanian brothers and sisters to the USA and many EWAID Synod
13 groups and individuals spending time in the UKD; and
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15 **WHEREAS**, the major challenge of the Ulanga Kilombero area is poverty, as most of its people are
16 subsistent farmers, and poverty of the people leads to poverty of the diocese; and
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18 **WHEREAS**, the UKD has two ministry centers (Lugala Lutheran Hospital and Tumaini Lutheran
19 Seminary, both in Malinyi) which they recognize as a high priority within the diocese as they see the task
20 of the church as “called to serve”; and
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22 **WHEREAS**, the nurture of the relationship with our Tanzanian brothers and sister in Christ has become a
23 high priority for the EWAID Synod through the support of Education (Tumaini Lutheran Seminary),
24 Medical (Lugala Hospital) and a Travel Fund (providing a means for visits between our synod and the
25 UKD); and
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27 **WHEREAS**, as recently stated by Bishop Mtenji of the UKD, the top priority of the diocese is the
28 completion of a Dining/Assembly Hall for the Tumaini Lutheran Seminary (which includes two
29 institutions, the Tumaini Lutheran Secondary School and the Tumaini Bible School) so that students no
30 longer must serve their food on the ground, eat in classrooms or dormitories (which lead to health
31 concerns) and worry about the rain for worship, assembly and dining; and
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33 **WHEREAS**, the EWAID Synod has already given generous financial support for the Dining/Assembly
34 Hall, believing that we had collected sufficient funds to complete the project; and
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36 **WHEREAS**, the original cost estimates and plans were drawn up by the Malinyi contractor who had
37 worked on previous projects at Tumaini Lutheran Seminary; and
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39 **WHEREAS**, the scope and magnitude of this current building is now recognized to be far beyond the
40 size of past buildings and the capability of the past contractor; and
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42 **WHEREAS**, the materials and construction methods to be used for the Dining/Assembly Hall project
43 have been substantially upgraded; and
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45 **WHEREAS**, the cost of these materials and the new cost for the labor is higher; and
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Resolution Passed (SA.09.05.14 with amendment SA.09.05.15)

2009 Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Assembly - May 3, 2009

Resolution Number 13 2009 Eastern Washington-Idaho Synod Assembly

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the UKD must now seek additional funds for the Dining/Assembly Hall project from its
2 partners in Germany, Denmark and the EWAID Synod; and
3
4 **WHEREAS**, we of the EWAID Synod wish to continue our firm support of our Companion Synod;
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6 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the EWAID Synod of the ELCA will continue to raise funds
7 for the Dining/Assembly Hall project of the Tumaini Lutheran Seminary with grateful hearts for the
8 partnership that is growing and richly blessing both people in North America and those in East Africa;
9 and
10
11 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the EWAID Synod of the ELCA make formal invitation to Bishop
12 Renard Mtenji and Rosemary to visit us during the Synod Assembly in 2010, for the purpose of
13 deepening our relationship and bringing us current information about the ministry of Ulanga Kilombero
14 Diocese and the ways in which we might be more faithful partners.

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