

**Resolution Concerning Israel and Palestine**

**WHEREAS**, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) at its 2016 Churchwide Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to awareness-building, accompaniment, and advocacy for a peaceful resolution of the conflict between Israel and Palestine; and,

**WHEREAS**, the 2016 Churchwide Assembly has urged ELCA members, congregations, synods, agencies, and the presiding bishop, to call on their members of Congress and the Federal Administration to require that, in order for Israel to continue receiving U.S. financial and military aid, it must:

- Comply with internationally recognized human rights standards
- Stop settlement building
- Stop expansion of existing settlements in East Jerusalem and the West Bank
- End its occupation of Palestinian territory and
- Enable an independent Palestinian state; and,

**WHEREAS**, the ELCA encourages its members, congregations, synods, agencies, and institutions to increase positive investment in Palestine and other under-resourced areas where human rights abuses materially impact the well-being of all people and to engage in shareholder advocacy in support of human rights; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, that congregations in the Northeastern Minnesotan Synod provide opportunities for their members to learn about the realities of life for our Lutheran brothers and sisters and other Palestinians in the Holy Land through the many resources available from the ELCA's *Peace Not Walls* campaign ([www.elca.org/peacenotwalls](http://www.elca.org/peacenotwalls)), which works for peace with justice in Palestine and Israel, or through the reading of Palestinian Lutheran voices, such as the works of Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, so they may be able to speak and act with understanding regarding the conflict between Palestine and Israel.