



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Freed & RENEWED
in Christ 500
YEARS OF GOD'S
GRACE IN ACTION

Citation in Honor of Vice President Carlos E. Peña

Mr. Carlos E. Peña has for 13 years devoted generous amounts of time and offered his gifts of leadership in his calling as vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The vice president serves as chair of the Church Council meetings and the council's Executive Committee. He has done so with conscientious ability and a gracious manner. He has engaged all members of the council in thoughtful decision-making and diligent service as the board of directors of the churchwide organization.

During his tenure, Carlos demonstrated forthright commitment to the faith and genuine compassion for the people in congregations and communities throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He fulfilled his responsibilities with abundant generosity by:

- Sharing God's love and providing insightful devotions on the church's mission;
- Being inspired and guided by faith to preside with fairness and care for each member of the council;
- Balancing the commitment to listen to all voices with the demands of presiding over tight agendas;
- Seeking to make visible the unity that is ours in Christ amidst the unique gifts of Christian diversity;
- Visiting other countries on behalf of the ELCA and witnessing God at work through the people locally and globally;
- Serving the church at numerous synod assemblies and on the World Council of Churches Central Committee;
- Honoring the past while envisioning the future and trusting God during tumultuous and enormous change; and
- Keeping constant focus on the commitments of this church and providing diligence in service to members of this whole church.

We give thanks to God for the contributions Carlos has made to the life of this church. Although Carlos has chosen to conclude his service as vice president, we remember Ecclesiastes 3: "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." Carlos will continue his dedication to witness and service in daily life in the variety of other activities that he undertakes. In the passing of his responsibilities as vice president to his successor, may God grant him persistent hope in the Gospel we proclaim and delight in remembering the privilege of serving as the fourth vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

Upon action of the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, the Servus Dei Award is conferred upon Mr. Carlos E. Peña, vice president of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, November 1, 2003-October 31, 2016.