

AMEZ-ELCA

April 14, 2010

Statement of Mission

We, the Board of Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and the Conference of Bishops of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, are called to one another as brothers and sisters in Christ. This calling is shared in trust by all Christians who profess an abiding faith in our Risen Lord. The calling of these churches, and indeed of all Christians, is to be restorative agents of God's redeeming work in the world. We are called to be about the reconciling efforts of Christ's command to draw all people unto himself so that we might be transformed by His word and the efforts of His ministry of grace, in us.

We, these two expressions of the one Body of Christ, believe it is time that our churches to come together as communities of faith and to know each other in order that we might be more effective as people of God.

We invite you to gather in your regions and communities, to listen and speak our stories of faith, and to create and enhance communities of hope where our ministries may be enriched by one another.

Our vision requires that we adhere to the movement of God's Spirit, and that we demonstrate the love of God, so that we identify the tapestry of God's vision for us in our communities of faith.

Therefore, we encourage you to respond to this invitation by partnering with us as we share the witness of God's vision throughout the world.