

SEPERATION WALL IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES

Social Policy Resolution
CC04.04.21



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

Adopted by the 2004 Church Council.

Whereas

Whereas, in June of 2003 United States President George W. Bush pledged the active, determined leadership of the United States in support of the Road Map for Peace, which provides a framework for an end to all acts of violence as essential to building peace and negotiated steps to be taken by the Palestinian Authority and by the Israeli government to help restore hope and make tangible progress toward peace in the areas of security, Palestinian institution-building, humanitarian response, civil society, and settlements; and

Whereas, Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson and 30 other prominent national Jewish, Christian, and Muslim leaders wrote to President Bush on November 25, 2003, calling for continued U.S. leadership in support of the Road Map for Peace; and

Whereas, the Road Map for Peace was developed under the auspices of the United Nations, the European Union, Russia, and the United States; and

Whereas, President Bush has in recent days supported unilateral initiatives of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon regarding key matters outstanding on the peace process and in so doing has potentially compromised the leadership role of the United States in the process of negotiation and reconciliation between the Israelis and Palestinians within the framework of the Road Map for Peace; therefore, be it

Resolved

Resolved, that the Church Council of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

- Express grave concern regarding recent unilateral initiatives being considered by Israel on key matters outstanding in the peace process;
- Strongly affirm the principle of a negotiated settlement within the context of international support as outlined in the Road Map for Peace; and
- Call upon President Bush to reconsider his recent support of these unilateral initiatives and to exercise determined leadership in the coming months within the context of the Road Map for Peace to press urgently for an end to all acts of violence as essential to building peace and for an immediate resumption of negotiations, including reciprocal, simultaneous steps by both sides, a specific timetable, and an effective monitoring system.

