



Liberian Ministers Association of the Delaware Valley
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Second General Assembly Resolution Second General Assembly Resolution Committee

The Second General Assembly,

Reminding ourselves of the important role we played as Liberian Christian ministers in the diaspora in keeping alive the hopes and aspiration of our people, we gathered for our second general assembly on the 12th day of December 2015 at the Faith-Immanuel Lutheran Church in East Lansdowne, Pennsylvania under the theme “Missional Foresight: Embracing the Future, Building with Focus”, thus strengthening our collaboration, promoting the desire for unity, reviewing and evaluating progress and challenges over the year, and soberly discussing issues of importance to our home country, Liberia and ways for meaningful engagement for the betterment of the lives of our people,

Reaffirming the purpose of our existence as a body founded in 2002, and realizing that we are all tied together in a single garment of destiny as emphasized by the president, Rev. Dr. Moses Suah-Denis, which encouraging greater collaboration with other community-based organizations aimed at improving the lives of our people and promoting the desire for unity in and among us as a Christian body representative of the heart, hands, eyes, and feet of God on earth in his service,

Noting with satisfaction and acknowledging the work done over the years by the LMADV in promoting community peace and stability in respective remarks made by the presidents of the Union of Liberian Association in America (ULAA), Hon. Wilmot Kunney and the Liberian Association of Pennsylvania (LAP), Hon. Christopher Selekpoh, and calling for greater collaboration and partnership,

Whereas all of our assembly speakers including Pastor Francis Wongbaye our devotional speaker, Hon. Josiah Jokai our assembly guest speaker, and Bishop Amos Tarpeh our assembly empowerment service speaker, stressed the fact that our common destiny is tied to each other and as ministers, we must remain to be the gatekeepers of our community so that our people can continuously find hope in this land of the United States and to be of valuable service to our countrymen back home,

Noting with grave concern that the role of the diaspora church is very relevant in Liberia transition to genuine stability from presentation made by the keynote speaker Hon. Josiah Jokai thus calling the Association to begin proactive engagement with local structures in Liberia like the Liberian Council of Churches and others to begin playing a key advocacy role to ensure good governance is restored in Liberia for the betterment of all Liberians,

Encouraged by the Youth Auxiliary of the Association report made of progress over the year to restore relationship among youth of member churches, and informing the assembly of their successful hosting of a Valentine Day ball, inter-church revival, and with plans to conduct major program for 2016 to include effort to discourage teenage pregnancy, promote mentorship, and education awareness among youth in the Liberian community,

Encouraged by the echoes received from pastors of member churches stating that the state of affairs in their local churches is perfect with specific reference to growth and evangelism, administration and financial management, and encouraging merger of churches of small congregation to ensure that the people served are adequately minister to and to promote community building and cohesiveness in the diaspora,

Satisfied with the annual message of the president, Rev. Dr. Moses Suah Dennis that the state of affairs of the association is strong, thus narrating the tremendous progress made by the Association over the year 2015 with recommendations of new activities to help strengthen the association which included: an annual day and night of prayer for Liberia and its people before every July 26 thanksgiving services; and a quarterly discussion forum on issues of concerns for Liberians at home and in the diaspora through collaboration effort with the Liberian Association of Pennsylvania,

Satisfied with the conduct of election for new officers and board members that elected Rev. Dr. Moses Suah-Dennis, Rev. Urias Dixon, Rev. Solomon M. Muin, Rev. Amos T. Suah, Rev. Dr. K. Samuel Ndorleh, Rev. Letricia Roberts as president, vice president, secretary general, financial secretary, treasurer, and chaplain respectively, and Rev. John C. Gblah and Bishop Maryann Mason as member of the Board and a by-election scheduled for January 16, 2016 to complete the remaining three seats of the Board,

Encouraged by the presentation of Mr. Ronald Burling on positive employee relations and calling on partnership with the Association and member churches to help poverty reduction in the Liberian community,

Overwhelmed by the presence of Bishop Amos Tarpeh, former president of the Association who has had an extreme stroke attack but recovered through the miraculous intervention of God, to address the assembly empowerment service, and his call on pastors to put aside their differences and embrace the vision of the Association and work together for the good of the Liberian community in the diaspora and to the glory of God,

Cognizant of the need to recognize and appreciate the effort of those who contributed their time and resources to ensure the successful holding of the second general assembly,

Urges the Association to do a formal thank you letter to the host, Faith-Immanuel Lutheran Church for the warm hospitality, the moderator of the assembly, Rev. Nat Edwin Miller, II. For ably assisting the president in moderating the entire assembly, the devotional speaker, Pastor Francis Wongbaye for the inspiring and challenging message, the keynote speaker, Hon. Josiah Jokai for the great insight brought to the churches on issues of concern in Liberia and identifying the role the church can play to ensure stability in Liberia, the distinguished special guests, Hon. Wilmot Kunney and Hon. Christopher Selekpoh of ULAA and LAP respectively for their greetings and call for partnership with the association for the good of our people, Mr. Ronald J. Burling for his presentation on positive employee relations program, the chairman and member of the Election Commission, Rev. Zarwolo Gatei and Rev. Cynthia Hayden for conducting a free and satisfying election of officers and board members, the service guest preacher, Bishop Amos Tarpeh for his wonderful and inspiring message, couple with installing the officers, and to the Word of Life ministry International through its Pastor, Rev. Dr. K. Samuel Ndorleh for a promised to contribute the sponsoring of one person for a mission to assess conditions in Liberia for the association involvement,

In furtherance of all of the above tremendous accomplishment made during the Assembly to have a miss ionic foresight: embracing the future, building with focus, we resolved as an assembly the following for immediate consideration beginning 2016:

1. **Urges** member churches with small and struggling congregation desiring to merger with other congregation for full ministry to do so. That such merger be preceded by series of empowerment workshops organized by the Association to strengthen the pastor and church officer capacity after which if these churches see it fit for merger, they could.;

2. **Requests** that all churches gather at a designated place before every July 26 thanksgiving service to have a night of prayer for Liberia and its people. It is incumbent upon the Association to do this annually.

3. **Calls** to set up a committee to immediately plan event for a quarterly forum inviting special speakers, the Christian community, all Liberians and friends of Liberia in the diaspora to discuss specific issues of concern to Liberia and recommendation of these discussion be communicated to the government and people of Liberia;

4. **Request** that the quarterly forum be inaugurated in March and be named in honor of Rev. Dr. John K. Jallah, a deserving minister who has served the Association and Liberian community with distinction as he retires from the leadership of the Association. This committee shall invite the local media coverage during every forum;

5. **Stresses** that the Association focus on helping and empowering member churches through training workshops, assistant with program development, and resource mobilization that will equip ministers to be efficient in their service and delivery to their congregation; and

6. **Requests** that the Association begin immediate engagement with local structures in Liberia for preventive actions that will threaten the life of our people, work toward assurance of free and fair election, engagement for good governance, post-conflict assistance through reconstruction and development. That a three-member assessment mission team be set up to visit Liberia for this purpose in March 2016.

Respectfully submitted on this 12th day of December in the year of our Lord, 2016 at the Faith-Immanuel Lutheran Church, 65 Penn Boulevard, East Lansdowne, Pennsylvania 19050 by the Resolution Committee:

Rev. Louise Brooks-Koffa, Char

Rev. Urias Dixon, Member

Bishop Maryann Mason, Member

Pastor Doris Howard-Sherman, Member

Elder Edith Rick, Member

Rev. Solomon M. Muin, Technical Supervision

Rev. John C. Gblah, Member