

Resolution #58 - Latino Ministries

Subject: Latino Ministries

From: Evangelism and Church Growth Ministry Group

WHEREAS, Christ has called us to "go and make disciples of all nations";

WHEREAS, the Synod of 1998 received a report from its World Mission Ministry Group encouraging the continued development of ministries among Latinos in our Province, and particularly in the Winston-Salem area;

WHEREAS, the Board of Evangelism and Home Missions (BEHM) has begun working toward that goal by appointing, in 2003, a Director of Latino Ministries Education and Development, establishing a standing Latino Ministries Committee, and moving forward in the formation of a Spanish-speaking congregation, La Iglesia Morava Cordero de Dios; and

WHEREAS, the Latino Ministries Committee has recognized that local Latino communities need places for worship, opportunities for fellowship and Bible study, and resources to assist in their spiritual growth; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That Synod celebrates the good beginning which has been made. (Among many examples, we would mention: the inclusion of 50 new members of our church through Cordero de Dios, many of whom are new believers; the development of a ministry with Latinos at Bethabara; English as a Second Language courses at Raleigh; the welcoming of an Hispanic congregation by Pine Chapel to share facilities; and a developing awareness in our congregations of the opportunities for service and, most importantly sharing and learning together);

RESOLVED, That local congregations consider the resources they can offer to the Latino community in terms of worship space, opportunities for fellowship and study, and sharing and embracing of their respective cultures;

RESOLVED, That the BEHM, through its Latino Ministries Committee, develop specific plans to match the needs of the Latino community with the Provincial and congregational resources that are available, and to assist congregations in sharing the Gospel within the Latino community, and enjoying the gifts, strengths and enrichment that come from mutual sharing; and

RESOLVED, That for the 2010 Synod the BEHM report on the progress made in these areas and offer further opportunities for improved and continued fellowship