RESOLUTION #239-01

Date/Time	November 18, 2023, 4:20 p.m
Title of Resolution	A resolution on solidarity with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem
Submitted by	William Lane
Submitted on behalf of	The Reverend Canon Lloyd Casson The Very Reverend William Lane
Authorized representative to respond to questions, at convention, concerning this resolution	William Lane
RESOLVED	Whereas over a month ago, Hamas launched an attack across the border from Gaza into Israel. This attack resulted in the slaying of men, women, and children and the taking of hostages - Israeli Jewish citizens as well as visitors from elsewhere, including the United States. Whereas in response to this, the State of Israel has launched an attack on Gaza. The rationale for this attack is to punish and eradicate Hamas. The awful consequence of this is the death of Palestinians of all ages and the destruction of hospitals, homes, schools, and the basic services of water and electricity. Whereas there is real and present danger of hostilities spreading to the occupied West Bank of Palestine. Whereas the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is our presence in Gaza and the West Bank.

	Whereas the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is home to about 7,000 Anglicans worshiping in 28 congregations. Whereas the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is responsible for over 30 institutions including schools, rehabilitation centers, centers for pilgrimages, and hospitals including Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza. Whereas many of us in the Episcopal Church in Delaware have experienced the hospitality of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and witnessed its ministry as pilgrims at Saint George's College. <u>BE IT RESOLVED</u>, that this 239th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Delaware sends the following message: "To Archbishop Hosam and the clergy and laity of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem from the Episcopal Church in Delaware: Grace and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We stand in solidarity with you in this time of tragedy for the peoples of Palestine/Israel. To you our brothers and sisters in Christ, we pledge our prayers. And with these prayers, our commitment to support the vital ministries of the Episcopal Church in the Holy Land during this time of war. We will also continue to work and advocate for a just peace in Palestine/Israel, one that respects the dignity of every human being. With thankfulness for your ministry in the land of the Holy One, we are your companions on the Way. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you always." <u>AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED</u> that this 239th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Delaware requests the Diocesan Council and the Trustees make a generous donation to support the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTION	A message of assurance to our sisters and brothers in the Holy Land that they are not forgotten, they are not alone