



Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

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July 27, 2016

Rateb Y. Rabie, KCHS
Holy Land Christian Ecumenical Foundation
6935 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 518
Bethesda, MD 20815


Sir Rateb:

Congratulations again this year on your International Conference and Awards Banquet. Many in Washington look forward to this event every year, because you bring together so many different kinds of people who share your passion for the Christian communities of the Holy Land. And people in those communities also look forward to your event every year, because through the conference and the dinner you plead their cause and celebrate their accomplishments. May your 18th Annual International Conference and Awards Banquet be a splendid event!

And may all your other work flourish as well. You have found ways to be both practical and loving in the way you carry out your ministries. With a businessman's eye you have seized opportunities to help the Christians of the Holy Land earn livings and provide for their families. Your educational work is legendary. And with the open heart of a Christian gentleman you have helped care for the weakest ones, the elderly and the young. In ways large and small you have given hope and confidence to many, many people who are often forgotten by the world at large.

You have done your work with an infectious charm and a gracious sense of welcome for everyone. No one forgets meeting you and no one forgets the witness you and your co-workers make for justice and human development and partnership in peace-making. I count myself among those whom you have blessed, and it is an honor to wish you every blessing in return. In the Lord Jesus Christ, I am

Sincerely yours,

+ 
The Rev. Richard H. Graham, Bishop

In Partnership with:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Namibia, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Republic of Namibia,
The Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Namibia, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Slovakia, and The Lutheran Church in El Salvador