



THE GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
815 SECOND AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10017

**RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO DIOCESES  
FROM THE 76<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL CONVENTION**  
*January 1, 2010*

**PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS, FIRST READING**

*The following Constitutional amendments shall be read by the Secretary of the Diocesan Convention preceding the final vote at the 77<sup>th</sup> General Convention in 2012, such reading to be certified by the Diocesan Convention with the Secretary of the General Convention.*

**B015: Amend Constitution Article I.4**

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*Resolved*, That lines 3 and 4 and 11 of Article I.4 of the Constitution (page 2) be amended to change the name of the "Convocation of the American Churches in Europe" to "Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe" as follows:

**Sec. 4 .** The Church in each Diocese which has been admitted to union with the General Convention, each area Mission established as provided by Article VI, and the Convocation of ~~the American~~ the *Episcopal Churches in Europe*, shall be entitled to representation in the House of Deputies by not more than four ordained persons, Presbyters or Deacons, canonically resident in the Diocese and not more than four Lay Persons, confirmed adult communicants of this Church, in good standing in the Diocese but not necessarily domiciled in the Diocese; but the General Convention by Canon may reduce the representation to not fewer than two Deputies in each order. Each Diocese, and the Convocation of ~~the American~~ the *Episcopal Churches in Europe*, shall prescribe the manner in which its Deputies shall be chosen.

**B029: Amend Constitution Article II.2**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention amend Article II, Section 2 of the Constitution of The Episcopal Church as follows:

**Sec. 2.** No one shall be ordained and consecrated Bishop until the attainment of thirty years of age; nor without the consent of a majority of the Standing Committees of all the Dioceses, and the consent of a majority of the Bishops of this Church exercising jurisdiction. ~~But if the election shall have taken place within one hundred twenty days before the meeting of General Convention, the consent of the House of Deputies shall be required in place of that of a majority of the Standing Committees.~~ No one shall be ordained and consecrated Bishop by fewer than three Bishops.

**D029: Amend Constitution Article VIII**

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*Resolved*, That the last paragraph of Article VIII of the Constitution is amended by the addition of a final sentence as follows:

*No minister of such a Church ordained by other than a Bishop, apart from any such ministers designated as part of the Covenant or Instrument by which full communion was established shall be eligible ~~for licensing~~ to officiate under this Article.*

## **RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO DIOCESES FOR ACTION**

*The following resolutions adopted by both Houses of the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention call for appropriate action by dioceses, diocesan committee(s), or congregations.*

### **A079: Addiction Education for Ordained Ministry**

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*Resolved,* That every course of study for the ordained ministry of the Church include education in the nature of addiction, in the identification, practices of intervention and treatment of addiction, and in Twelve-Step programs for recovery from addiction; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the 76th General Convention direct the Standing Commission on Ministry Development to consider changes to the ordination canons to further promote such study; and be it further

*Resolved,* That each diocese commit to continue to address the issues of education, prevention, intervention and treatment in support of its congregations, clergy, laity and employees.

### **A081: Accommodation for People with Disabilities**

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*Resolved,* That The Episcopal Church dioceses or congregations make those reasonable accommodations necessary for the full participation of staff members or volunteers with disabilities who attend conferences or meetings on behalf of the Church.

### **A142: Recommit to being Anti-Racists for the Next Three Triennia (until 2018)**

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*Resolved,* That The Episcopal Church recommit and declare itself to be dedicated to continuing to work against the sin of racism and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Office of Anti-Racism and Gender Equality continue to design and deliver anti-racism, classism and ethnic discrimination training that examines factors and circumstances which maintain racism, classism and ethnic discrimination in the Church and in civil society; and be it further

*Resolved,* That all dioceses and provinces receive anti-racism training if they have not already done so or renew training that has been previously taken; and be it further

*Resolved,* That dioceses and provinces develop programs and ministries to dismantle and eradicate structures of racism, both internally and externally, and integrate the practices of anti-racism into their ongoing life and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Anti-Racism Committee of Executive Council develop a monitoring and reporting process for the dioceses, and that dioceses make annual reports to the Anti-Racism Committee of Executive Council.

### **A143: Extension of GC2006-A123 to GC 2012**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church agree to extend Resolution A123, which was passed at the 75th General Convention, through the 2013-2015 triennium; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, as directed by Resolution 2006-A123, the General Convention encourage each diocese to continue over the next six years a process to gather information in its community on (1) the complicity of The Episcopal Church in the institution of slavery and in the subsequent history of segregation and discrimination, (2) examples of resistance to slavery and discrimination and (3) the economic benefits derived by the Episcopal Church from the transatlantic slave trade and the institution of slavery; and be it further

*Resolved*, That dioceses consult with the anti-racism officer of The Episcopal Church for resources to aid them in doing this work; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the information gathering be used as the foundation for truth-telling, confession, apology, forgiveness, repentance and reconciliation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That each diocese, as requested by Resolution 2006-A123, name a Day of Repentance and on that day hold a Service of Repentance; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention require all dioceses to report their results to the 77th and 78th General Conventions.

### **C071: Health Care Coverage for All**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention call on its congregations to undertake discussions within the parish of the issue of health care coverage in the United States, including:

- a) recognition that health is multi-dimensional, with spiritual, social, environmental, and mental elements as well as physical,
- b) reminder of personal responsibility for healthy life choices and concern for maintaining one's own health,
- c) proclaiming the Gospel message of concern for others which extends to concern for their physical health as well as spiritual well-being,
- d) responsibility as a parish to attend to the needs (including health-related needs) of others, both other members of the parish family and those of the wider community, the nation, and the world,
- e) recognition that there are limits to what the healthcare system can and should provide and thus that some uncomfortable and difficult choices may have to be made if we are to limit healthcare costs; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, The Episcopal Church urge its members to contact elected federal, state and territorial officials encouraging them to:

- a) create, with the assistance of experts in related fields, a comprehensive definition of "basic healthcare" to which our nation's citizens have a right,
- b) establish a system to provide basic healthcare to all,

c) create an oversight mechanism, separate from the immediate political arena, to audit the delivery of that "basic healthcare,"

d) educate our citizens in the need for limitations on what each person can be expected to receive in the way of medical care under a universal coverage program in order to make the program sustainable financially,

e) educate our citizens in the role of personal responsibility in promoting good health; and be it further,

*Resolved*, That this resolution be distributed to all Provinces and dioceses of The Episcopal Church for their consideration and support.

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### **C080: Lay Leadership and Ministry Development**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention call upon the Executive Council, provinces, dioceses, and congregations to promote and develop the discernment that all of daily life and work is ministry, calling for the intentional exercise of the Baptismal Covenant promises in all sectors of public as well as private life; and be it further

*Resolved*, That, as mandated in Canons III.1 and 2, Executive Council urge and assist diocesan Commissions on Ministry to promote and develop programs that will engage baptized persons in ministry discernment, and support congregations in providing processes for such discernment in community; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Office of Lay Leadership and Ministry Development and the Standing Commission on Ministry Development be directed to assist provinces and dioceses in concrete ways that support the full realization of the ministries of the baptized, both on Sunday and beyond, so that parishes may serve as ministry development "base camps" for all who seek to live their faith in every part of daily life.

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### **C083: Support for Day Laborers**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention commend the actions of elected officials and community leaders who have established and are establishing sites at which day laborers are treated fairly and in a manner which befits their communities; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention call upon the dioceses of the Episcopal Church to recognize and support these efforts and those involved in endeavoring to create a just environment for day-labor employment.

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### **D020: Provisional Acceptance of Anglican Covenant**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church commend the Anglican Covenant proposed in the most recent text of the Covenant Design Group (the "Ridley Cambridge Draft") and any successive drafts to the dioceses for study and comment during the coming triennium; and be it further

*Resolved*, That dioceses report on their study to the Executive Council in keeping with Resolution 2006-A166; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Executive Council prepare a report to the 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church that includes draft legislation concerning this Church's response to an Anglican Covenant; and be it further

*Resolved*, That dioceses and congregations be invited to consider the Anglican Covenant proposed draft as a document to inform their understanding of and commitment to our common life in the Anglican Communion.

## **RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO DIOCESES FOR CONSIDERATION OR INFORMATION**

*The following resolutions adopted by both Houses of the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention call for appropriate consideration by dioceses, diocesan committee(s), or congregations.*

### **A033: Peace and Reconciliation in Southern Sudan**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention commends to Episcopalians the following recommendations of a joint delegation of bishops of The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that traveled to the Sudan in April 2008; and urges continued advocacy and prayer from all Episcopalians for peace with justice in the Sudan, specifically:

- (1) Renewed international commitment to the successful political implementation of Sudan's Comprehensive Peace Agreement;
- (2) Increased and better-coordinated economic-development and investment efforts, both public and private, in Southern Sudan;
- (3) Internationally coordinated efforts to care for and resettle the several million refugees and persons who have been displaced internally as a consequence of the Sudan's long-running conflicts
- (4) Condemnation of all violence perpetrated against refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs), specifically including the rape of women and girls in Darfur and elsewhere; and be it further

*Resolved*, That The Episcopal Church acknowledge the pleas of the Archbishop of the Episcopal Church of Sudan that urgent action be taken by all concerned parties to ensure the faithful implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) to prevent the deteriorating situation in Sudan from escalating into full scale war, and be it further;

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention urge the United States Government to urgently request that nations who serve as guarantors of the CPA establish measures to hold parties to the CPA accountable for its fair and transparent implementation, including the fair resolution of border disputes, the equitable sharing of resources, and the carrying out of safe and fair elections, and to assure that non-compliance have consequences, and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention urge the United States and its international partners request that the United Nations Mission in Sudan continue peacekeeping duties that include monitoring the peace process and intervening in conflicts to prevent loss of life, violence, and widespread displacement.

### **A034: Advocacy for Cuba**

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*Resolved,* That the 76th General Convention urge continued advocacy and prayer from Episcopalians for an end to the United States embargo against Cuba, particularly provisions that hamper the mission of the Church in Cuba, including the restrictions on U.S. citizens traveling to Cuba, stringent limits on financial remittances from the U.S. to Cubans and severe restrictions on the ability of Cuban citizens to visit the United States.

### **A036: Haiti**

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*Resolved,* That the 76th General Convention stand in solidarity with the people of Haiti as they struggle to recover from recent natural disasters, political turmoil, economic hardship, social dislocation and environmental degradation; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the General Convention commend to all Episcopalians the Diocese of Haiti as a model of faithful ministry through its extensive and exemplary network of educational, medical and cultural institutions serving the people of Haiti; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the General Convention commend the non-violence work of the Diocese of Haiti in collaboration with the Episcopal Peace Fellowship; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the General Convention commend the efforts of the Presiding Bishop and the Office of Government Relations for their contribution to the negotiations that led to the cancellation of \$1.2 billion in indebtedness; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Convention urge the National Association of the Episcopal Schools in the United States to partner with the Diocese of Haiti in supporting its 253 educational institutions serving over 80,000 Haitian students; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Convention urge the Society for the Increase of the Ministry to recognize and support the Theological Seminary of Haiti in its continuing efforts to instruct and counsel the next generation of Episcopal clergy in the Church's largest diocese; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Convention urge congregations and dioceses within the Church to support the Diocese of Haiti through companion relationships; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the Convention support the Presiding Bishop and the Office of Government Relations in their continuing efforts to work with the United States Government to increase disaster and developmental assistance to Haiti; to extend trade preferences for Haitian exports to the United States; and to designate Temporary Protected Status to Haitian immigrants living in the United States; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$25,000 for the ongoing implementation of non-violence training.

### **A037: Prayer for Wall Around Bethlehem to Come Down**

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*Resolved,* That the 76th General Convention, urge every Episcopalian and every Episcopal Church and every Episcopal diocese, to pray, especially in Advent and during the Christmas season, for the Wall around Bethlehem and all other barriers to come down:

"Almighty God, Creator of the wonderful complex diversity of humanity; you have fashioned us in your image and commanded us to love one another;

Reach down your divine hand so that the wall shall come down in Bethlehem, the birthplace of your Son, the Prince of Peace; And may the crumbling walls herald the fall of all barriers that divide us.

Bind us together so that love gives rise to an abundance of tenderness among all people; and may our hearts like Mary's magnify the Lord, and may your love shower down throughout the world so all divisions are scattered and washed away.

We ask this all with expectant hearts through Christ Jesus, our Lord, Amen."

#### **A041: War in Iraq**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention commend new government strategies that seek to restore trust among nations and work to alleviate the conditions that lead to the War in Iraq; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge all Episcopalians to support independent international relief efforts such as those of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent to bring healing to this deeply broken nation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge all Episcopalians to use Christian formation materials that stress nonviolent methods to conflict resolution and change; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge the President and Congress to abide by the demand of the Iraqi government to withdraw all U.S. combat forces from Iraq by December 31, 2011; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge the President and Congress to listen to and consider deeply the voices and concerns of the Iraqi people in determining our continuing relationship with that sovereign nation, including the establishment of permanent U.S. bases and the presence of military and non-military personnel; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge the President and Congress and our entire nation to seek wisdom from sin committed in Iraq and let that wisdom inform future relationships throughout the world; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge all Episcopalians to honor through their prayers and actions the men and women who conscientiously serve their country, those who have been killed and wounded in Iraq and those who conscientiously object to this war, all war, or selected wars.

#### **A042: First Use Military Action**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention condemn in any nation the first use of armed force in the form of a preventive or pre-emptive strike that is aimed at disrupting a non-imminent, uncertain military threat; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Convention strongly admonish the United States Government to renounce its 2002 policy that asserts the right to act, by armed force if necessary, to "forestall or prevent"

threats even if "uncertainty remains as to the time and place of the enemy's attack"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That ordained and lay leadership of The Episcopal Church promote the renunciation of "first use" military action as the established teaching of our Church, encouraging parish study and public witness.

#### **A043: Relief for Victims of International Criminal Gangs**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church, urge the dioceses of The Episcopal Church to stand in solidarity with and support of those dioceses in the Anglican Communion struggling with the ravages of gang activities, particularly in helping those dioceses provide more youth ministries and education; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Convention urge the United States Government and the United Nations to extend international refugee conventions and national immigration norms to provide relief to victims of criminal gangs; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Convention support the Presiding Bishop and the Office of Government Relations in their work with the U.S. government and other governments to increase their focus on and commitment to eliminate the scourge of gangs, both local and international.

#### **A045: Restricting Use of Bottled Water, Energy and Water Conservation**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention ask the Church to restrict the use of bottled water at General Convention and at other Church-sponsored activities where safe, because of the extreme negative environmental impact that attends its production; and be it further

*Resolved*, That every baptized Christian be encouraged to practice simple energy and water conservation techniques so that, by working together, we may restore the beauty of God's creation and ensure that this resource may again be available to all God's children in abundance.

#### **A065: Convening and Supporting Evangelists**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention affirm the Church's teaching that all Christians are called to bear witness to Christ wherever they may be and to proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ, and that this Convention equally affirm with Saint Paul that Christ has given to the Church evangelists to build up the Body of Christ; *and be it further*

*Resolved*, That this Convention direct the Center for Evangelism and Congregational Life to gather the voices and wisdom of evangelists, and encourage the sharing of information and deepening of relationships among them through all available ways, such as social networking sites, conference calls and meetings at conferences; *and be it further*

*Resolved*, That all dioceses are urged, through their Commissions on Ministry or other appropriate bodies, to identify and call forth evangelists, and to ensure that there are adequate training programs and materials available for evangelism, including web-based resources, appropriate to the demographic, cultural, and theological diversities of their geographic area; *and be it further*

*Resolved*, That this Convention direct the Center for Evangelism and Congregational Life to support dioceses in the training of evangelists by developing training materials and programs; by creating and making widely available resources in different languages, for example Spanish, French, etc., to identify and develop the gifts and skills of effective evangelists; and by establishing mechanisms for sharing locally developed best practices, experiences and resources; *and be it further*

*Resolved*, that the Center for Evangelism and Congregational Life solicit from Commissions on Ministry or other appropriate diocesan bodies information on local programs utilized for the identification and development of evangelists, so that such resources can be widely shared among dioceses; *and be it further*

*Resolved*, That the Center for Evangelism and Congregational Life report on the gatherings, diocesan programs, training materials and resources, and on their effectiveness in developing skills of evangelism to the 77th General Convention.

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**A074: Endorse Theological Statement on Interreligious Relations**

The text of the resolution has not been included because of its length. The legislation is available at: [http://gc2009.org/ViewLegislation/view\\_Legislation.aspx](http://gc2009.org/ViewLegislation/view_Legislation.aspx)

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**A075: Approve Presbyterian-Episcopal Agreement**

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention adopt the *Agreement Between The Episcopal Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA)*, which has been approved by the 2008 General Assembly of the PCUSA, and commend it to dioceses and congregations; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention authorize a second round of dialogue to address the issues specified in this Agreement and report to the 77th General Convention on its progress.

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**A077: Episcopal Health Ministries**

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention urges the congregations of The Episcopal Church, which have not already done so, to explore and implement health ministry as an organizing concept or vital component of outreach and pastoral care of the congregations by 2012; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention encourages congregations to raise awareness of health ministries and promote the understanding that health includes body, mind and spirit.

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**A078: Annual Recovery Sunday**

*Resolved*, That every congregation in The Episcopal Church be encouraged to raise awareness of recovery issues in a way suited to the particular congregation.

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**A083: Directive for Dioceses to Formulate a Strategy for LCF in the next triennium**

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention *strongly encourage* all dioceses to formulate a strategy for Lifelong Christian Formation in the next triennium; and be it further

*Resolved*, That such strategies should encompass and be suitable for all persons (e.g. various ages, languages and abilities). These strategies should be responsive to diocesan and societal contexts and accurately depict the current education and formation status. Because formation is not limited to a cognitive experience (classroom), formation should be holistic (encompasses learning, action and reflection); and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Congregational Life Center design an instrument and system of collection that will document currently available and successful programs, activities and resources. The instrument will pay special attention to resolutions adopted and resources highlighted at the 76th and each successive General Convention. In addition, such an endeavor will seek to gather the aspirations for diocesan future programs/activities concerning Christian formation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the information and data collected be forwarded to the SCLEF by January 31, 2011.

#### **A088: Enriching Our Worship 5**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention receives *Rachel's Tears, Hannah's Hopes* (found on page 205 of this *Blue Book Report*) as the response of the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to Resolution D047, *Post-Abortion Healing Services*, of the 74th General Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this 76th General Convention authorize the use of *Rachel's Tears, Hannah's Hopes* to be added to the *Enriching Our Worship* series for the 2010-2012 triennium, under the direction of the diocesan bishop or ecclesiastical authority with the following changes:

BB page 222: Delete "As long as we live, she too will live, for she is part of us, we remember her."

BB page 223, Commendation, line 3; "delete "saints" and insert "children"

BB page 223, Dismissal: add "Alleluia. Alleluia." at end of each line.

BB page 224, paragraph 1: delete first sentence.

BB page 224, paragraph 1: insert at beginning of paragraph: Sometimes people feel themselves carrying unresolved guilt over an abortion, or mishaps of pregnancy and infertility. Relationships can also be damaged in these processes. We recognize that all of these situations have a tragic dimension and call for great pastoral sensitivity to the needs of the woman and others involved.

#### **A102: Authorize Enriching Our Worship 1,2,3 and 4**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention authorize continuing use of *Enriching Our Worship 1: The Daily Office, Great Litany, and Eucharist; Enriching Our Worship 2: Ministry with the Sick and Dying and Burial of a Child; Enriching Our Worship 3: Burial Rites for Adults together with a Rite for the Burial of a Child; and Enriching Our Worship 4: The Renewal of Ministry and the Welcoming of a New Rector or other Pastor*, during the 2010-2012 Triennium, under the direction of the diocesan bishop or ecclesiastical authority and be it further

*Resolved*, That these liturgical texts be freely available in electronic format on the internet.

#### **A104: Multicultural Leadership Development**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention recognize the importance of cultural diversity in the dioceses; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention affirm the importance of cultural diversity and multicultural leadership development; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention request that dioceses of The Episcopal Church consider a specific yearly budget allocation for the implementation of multicultural leadership development to support a diocesan strategic plan designed for the creation and sustaining of multicultural ministry, utilizing "Meeting on New Ground"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention reconvene the Task Force that created Meeting on New Ground to study the dioceses involved in such ministry, gather resources for developing and sustaining multicultural ministry and to report on the progress to the 77th General Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$10,000 for the implementation of this Resolution.

#### **A138: Establishing a Mandatory Lay Employee Pension System**

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*Resolved*, That this Church establish a mandatory lay employee pension system for employees who are scheduled to work a minimum of 1,000 hours annually for any domestic Diocese, Parish, Mission or other ecclesiastical organization or body subject to the authority of the Church, in accordance with the following principles:

1. The lay employee pension system shall provide benefits that shall, initially, include defined benefit plan(s) and defined contribution plan(s);
2. If a defined benefit plan is selected, the employer assessment and/or contribution shall be not less than nine (9) percent of the employee's compensation; if a defined contribution plan is selected, the employer shall contribute not less than five (5) percent of the employee's compensation and match at least four (4) percent of the employee's contributions. The Trustees of The Church Pension Fund shall have the authority to increase or decrease the assessment and/or contribution percentages required for the lay pension system;
3. Existing defined benefit plans will be permitted to continue as long as their plan design delivers pension benefits not less than the pension benefits required by this Resolution, as determined by the plan administrator. If the plan does not provide the pension benefits required by this Resolution, such plan shall be amended to provide for such pension benefits no later than January 1, 2012.
4. The lay employee pension system shall be designed and administered by the Trustees and officers of The Church Pension Fund; the investment managers of the system shall initially include, but not necessarily be limited to, The Church Pension Fund and, in the case of a defined contribution plan offered to school employees, TIAA-CREF;

5. The lay employee pension system will be operated on a financially sound basis, as determined by the Trustees of the Church Pension Fund;
6. Other societies, organizations, or bodies in the Church not mandated to participate may, under the regulations of The Church Pension Fund, elect to come into the lay employee pension system;
7. No right or obligation to have assessments paid on compensation paid prior to plan participation will be part of the mandatory lay employee pension system;
8. Service in the Episcopal Church prior to plan implementation shall be recognized for vesting purposes;
9. The implementation of the mandatory lay employee pension system shall be completed no sooner than January 1, 2011 and no later than January 1, 2012; and
10. Further study be undertaken by The Church Pension Fund on the feasibility of inclusion of overseas Episcopal dioceses in the lay employee pension system and report back to the 77th General Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Canon I.8 shall be amended as follows:

#### **Canon 8: Of the Church Pension fund**

**Sec. 1** The Church Pension Fund, a corporation created by Chapter 97 of the Laws of 1914 of the State of New York as subsequently amended, is hereby authorized to establish and administer the clergy pension system, including life, accident and health benefits, of this Church, substantially in accordance with the principles adopted by the General Convention of 1913 and approved thereafter by the several Dioceses, with the view to providing pensions and related benefits for the Clergy who reach normal age of retirement, for the Clergy disabled by age or infirmity, and for the surviving spouses and minor children of deceased Clergy. The Church Pension Fund is also authorized to establish and administer the lay employee pension system of the Church, substantially in accordance with the principles adopted by the General Convention of 2009, with the view to providing pensions and related benefits for the eligible lay employees of this Church, as well as their eligible beneficiaries.

**Sec. 3.** For the purpose of administering the pension system, The Church Pension Fund shall be entitled to receive and to use all net royalties from publications authorized by the General Convention, and to levy upon and to collect from all Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations or bodies subject to the authority of this Church, and any other organizations, or bodies in the Church which under the regulations of The Church Pension Fund shall elect to come into the pension system, assessments based upon the salaries and other compensation paid to Clergy by such Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations or bodies for services rendered currently or in the past, prior to their becoming beneficiaries of the Fund. For the purpose of administering the lay employee pension system, The Church Pension Fund shall be entitled to collect from all Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations or bodies subject to the authority of this Church, and any other societies, organizations, or bodies in the Church which under the regulations of The Church Pension Fund shall elect to come into the lay employee pension system, assessments and/or contributions based upon the salaries and other compensation paid to eligible lay employees by such Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations or bodies.

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**A144: Extension of GC2009-A127 to GC 2012**

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*Resolved,* That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church agree to extend Resolution A127, which was passed at the 75th General Convention and that the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism report back to the 77th General Convention in 2012.

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**A159: Address the issue of AIDS**

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*Resolved,* That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church notes with increasing concern the continued rise in numbers of HIV infections and sexually transmitted diseases; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the General Convention urges Episcopalians at all levels of the Church to engage in conversations with HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases service providers, local health departments and other public and private resources to urge them to address this issue in direct and substantive ways that include the following prevention activities: accurate and explicit prevention information that is sensitive and specific to issues of culture, ethnicity, sexual identity, sexual orientation and the use of IV drugs and recreational drugs; and be it further

*Resolved,* That in light of our Baptismal Covenant that calls us to respect the dignity of every human being, the 76th General Convention urges dioceses and congregations to provide full, complete and accurate information about HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted disease prevention to all, and especially to young people, that they may make informed choices about this aspect of their lives.

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**A161: AIDS Education and Research**

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*Resolved,* That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church urges provinces, dioceses, congregations and worshiping communities to include accurate and comprehensive HIV and AIDS prevention in youth education programs; and be it further

*Resolved,* That The Episcopal Church encourage its congregations and worshiping communities to offer educational programming to interested parents and grandparents on how to discuss sex with their children; and be it further

*Resolved,* That the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition (NEAC) and National Episcopal Health Ministries (NEHM) be requested to compile appropriate secular and theological resources for this programming, including but not limited to: abstinence, resisting peer pressure and methods for preventing HIV, other STDs and pregnancy; and be it further

*Resolved,* That NEHM and NEAC further be requested to make these materials available to clergy, parishes, parish nurses, Christian educators and Episcopal schools.

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**A163: Mandate on NEAC AIDS Tutorial**

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*Resolved,* That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church mandate that CCABs, Episcopal Church Center staff, and strongly encourage diocesan staff and leaders and all active clergy take the web-based, self-directed tutorial on HIV/AIDS prepared by the National Episcopal AIDS Coalition (NEAC) during this last triennium. This was directed by General Convention Resolution 2006 A-134, and is readily available at [www.neac.org](http://www.neac.org); and be it further

*Resolved*, That the number of completed tutorials be electronically monitored and reported in the aggregate by NEAC to the 77th General Convention

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**A164: Commendations to Presiding Bishops**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church commend the 24th, 25th and 26th Presiding Bishops of The Episcopal Church for their faithful issuance of an annual World AIDS Day message; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention call upon all congregations and worshipping communities of the Church to observe World AIDS Day with worship and educational programs; and be it further

*Resolved*, That these events be used as an opportunity to form pastoral and liturgical responses to the HIV/AIDS pandemic both at home and overseas.

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**A166: Parental Leave**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church recognizes the importance of family in the life of clergy and laity employed by the Church, and urges all dioceses and congregations to establish policies for employee parental leave equally for parent(s)--clergy and laity, both in cases of birth and adoption--consistent with local employment laws and generous industry standards.

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**A167: Trafficking**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church calls for the protection of all victims of human trafficking, particularly women and children, providing necessary attention to their physical, psychological and social needs, and using approaches that respect victims' rights and integrity; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the 76th General Convention urges its members to support legislation and action oriented to the recovery and reintegration into society of victims of human trafficking. These efforts should provide a safe, dignified and sustainable way for victims of trafficking to reintegrate into society and lead a normalized life; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the 76th General Convention commends the work of The Executive Council Committee on the Status of Women, as well as the Roman Catholic Women Religious in addressing human trafficking as a national and international priority and recommends that all Episcopal dioceses collaborate with all faith groups and with the Anglican Communion through the International Anglican Women's Network to provide extensive education to expose and eradicate this insidious undercover modern day slavery; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the 76th General Convention commend the work fo the United States Department of State and the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement, in its mission to bring the issue of human trafficking to international attention and to support those vulnerable to economic exploitation, most expecially women and children; and be it further

*Resolved*, that all congregations and dioceses are urged to observe an Human Trafficking Awareness Day, in their liturgical, congregational and diocesan lives.

## **A177: Denominational Health Plan**

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*Resolved,* That this church establish The Denominational Health Plan of this church for all domestic dioceses, parishes, missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations or bodies subject to the authority of this church, for clergy and lay employees who are scheduled to work a minimum of 1,500 hours annually, in accordance with the following principles:

1. The Denominational Health Plan shall be designed and administered by the Trustees and officers of The Church Pension Fund, following best industry practices for comparable plans;
2. The Denominational Health Plan shall provide that, subject to the rules of the plan administrator, each diocese has the right to make decisions as to plan design options offered by the plan administrator, minimum cost-sharing guidelines for parity between clergy and lay employees, domestic partner benefits in accordance with General Convention Resolution 1997-C024 and the participation of schools, day care facilities and other diocesan institutions (that is, other than the diocese itself and its parishes and missions) in The Denominational Health Plan;
3. The Denominational Health Plan shall provide benefits that are comparable in coverage to those benefits currently provided by the domestic dioceses and parishes of this church;
4. The Denominational Health Plan shall provide equal access to health care benefits for eligible clergy and eligible lay employees;
5. The Denominational Health Plan shall provide benefits through The Episcopal Church Medical Trust, which shall be the sole plan sponsor for such benefits and continue to be operated on a financially sound basis;
6. The Denominational Health Plan shall have a church-wide advisory committee that is representative of the broader church and appointed by The Church Pension Fund, and such church-wide advisory committee shall receive an annual report about the status of The Denominational Health Plan;
7. For purposes of this Resolution, the term "domestic" shall mean ecclesiastical organizations and bodies located in the United States, including the Dioceses of Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands;
8. The Church Pension Fund shall continue to work with the Dioceses of Colombia, Convocation of American Churches in Europe, Dominican Republic, Ecuador Central, Ecuador Litoral, Haiti, Honduras, Micronesia, Taiwan and Venezuela to make recommendations with respect to the provision and funding of healthcare benefits of such dioceses under The Denominational Health Plan; and
9. The implementation of The Denominational Health Plan shall be completed as soon as practicable, but in no event later than by the end of 2012; and be it further

*Resolved,* That Canon I.8 shall be amended as follows:

**Sec. 1.** The Church Pension Fund, a corporation created by Chapter 97 of the Laws of 1914 of the State of New York as subsequently amended, is hereby authorized to establish and administer the clergy pension system, including life, accident and health benefits, of this Church, substantially in accordance with the principles adopted by the General Convention of 1913 and approved thereafter by the several Dioceses, with the view to providing pensions and related benefits for the Clergy who reach normal age of retirement, for the Clergy disabled by age or

infirmity, and for the surviving spouses and minor children of deceased Clergy. The Church Pension Fund is also authorized to establish and administer the denominational health plan of this Church, substantially in accordance with the principles adopted by the General Convention of 2009 in Resolution A177, with the view to providing health care and related benefits for the eligible Clergy and eligible lay employees of this Church, as well as their eligible dependents.

**Sec. 3.** For the purpose of administering the pension system, The Church Pension Fund shall be entitled to receive and to use all net royalties from publications authorized by the General Convention, and to levy upon and to collect from all Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations or bodies subject to the authority of this Church, and any other societies, organizations, or bodies in the Church which under the regulations of The Church Pension Fund shall elect to come into the pension system, assessments based upon the salaries and other compensation paid to Clergy by such Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations or bodies for services rendered currently or in the past, prior to their becoming beneficiaries of the Fund. For the purpose of administering the denominational health plan, The Church Pension fund shall determine the eligibility of all Clergy and lay employees to participate in the denominational health plan through a formal benefits enrollment process, and The Church Pension Fund shall be entitled to levy upon and collect contributions for health care and related benefits under the denominational health plan from all Parishes, Missions, and other ecclesiastical organizations or bodies subject to the authority of this Church with respect to their Clergy and lay employees.

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**A178: Establish First Sunday in Lent as Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday**

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*Resolved,* That this 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church encourage dioceses, congregations and individuals to remember and support the life-saving work of Episcopal Relief and Development during Lent through prayer and a special offering that will help heal a hurting world; and be it further

*Resolved,* That any costs incurred by the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society to implement this action shall be reimbursed by Episcopal Relief & Development, provided such costs are approved by Episcopal Relief & Development in advance.

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**A180: General Ordination Exam Fee**

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*Resolved,* That the authorization for the General Board of Examining Chaplains to charge a fee for the General Ordination Examination be continued for the next triennium, such fee not to exceed \$500 per candidate; this authorization is granted with the proviso that fees shall be reduced or waived, at the Administrator's discretion, for qualified candidates who are unable to obtain funds for the stated fee.

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**A185: Proposed Title IV Revisions**

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The text of the resolution has not been included because of its length. The legislation is available at: [http://gc2009.org/ViewLegislation/view\\_Legislation.aspx](http://gc2009.org/ViewLegislation/view_Legislation.aspx)

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**B021: Call for Access to DNA Testing**

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*Resolved,* That the 76th General Convention urge the Episcopal Church and all Episcopalians to call on their legislators and members of Congress to ensure that all those accused and convicted

have broad access to DNA testing, not only to exonerate those who are innocent but also to identify the true perpetrators of crimes they have been accused or convicted of; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Convention direct the Secretary of the General Convention to send copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, to appropriate members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, and to other appropriate officials and institutions.

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### **B025: Equitable Education for All Our Children**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church meeting in Anaheim, California urge dioceses to encourage every congregation to develop a partnership with a local public school; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention urge every Episcopalian to give 40 hours a year in support of public education through direct service, participation in community based educational enrichment opportunities, advocacy and/or teacher support; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention call upon the United States government to support policies and funding priorities that support equity in public education for all young people; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the results of these efforts be communicated to the 77th General Convention.

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### **C020: Condemnation of Torture**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention condemn the use of torture and the practice of extraordinary rendition by the United States and any government, individual or organization in any location in the world; and be it further

*Resolved*, that Episcopalians shall not engage in, order, or assist in the torture of any human being, and shall not counsel the use of torture for intelligence gathering or any other purpose; and be it further

*Resolved*, that lawyers who are Episcopalians and dioceses are urged to procure or provide pro bono legal counsel to help defend any Episcopalian in military, police, civilian governmental or contractor service who faces discharge or disciplinary action for refusing to order, engage or assist in torture, or for refusing to approve or to provide counsel justifying the use of torture for any purpose, or who faces discharge or disciplinary action for exposing such practices; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention call upon the United States government, and all governments, individuals and organizations in any location in the world to comply with Geneva Conventions and the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the administration of Justice, enacting policies to prevent the use for torture and extraordinary rendition both domestically and abroad; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the General Convention call upon the President and Congress to devise and implement truth and reconciliation-based methods of accountability to make transparent to the American people governmental practices or torture and extraordinary rendition.

## **C049: Review and Strengthen Economic Justice Ministry**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention direct the Executive Council to develop a strategic plan with clear designation of authority and accountability to address issues of domestic economic justice and report back to the 77th General Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the General Convention urge each Episcopal Congregation to build relationships with and among the marginalized of their community as well as form local partnerships with agencies that work with low income people; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention urge each Episcopal congregation to begin or continue to engage in the traditional acts of mercy in which many congregations and Jubilee Centers participate: food pantries, clothing closets, soup kitchens, homeless shelters, and other programs; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention continue and deepen its advocacy and shall urge dioceses and congregations (often in concert with the Episcopal Public Policy Network) to advocate for legislation that provides adequate levels of support and opportunities for low income people; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention urge dioceses and congregations to promote and participate in church-based community organizing whereby people of the local community exercise the power of numbers and conviction to bring their needs to the attention of and promote effective action by elected officials and governmental bodies; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention support and participate and shall urge dioceses and congregations to support and participate in various models through which low income people and their co-workers can take control of their own lives and meet their own needs: models such as community development corporations, housing corporations and co-ops, small business development, and land trusts; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention encourage at every level loans and deposits to community development financial institutions (community loan funds, community development banks and credit unions, and micro-loan business funds) to support local community development.

## **C051: Wounded Soldiers and Veterans**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention encourage its clergy, members, congregations and agencies to:

A. Educate themselves about the health-care and economic needs of our nation's military personnel and veterans who have been wounded, physically or emotionally, in the current wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, or in other wars, past or future.

B. Call on our nation's Department of Veteran Affairs Medical System and the US Government to continue to give the best possible care to our veterans, and to shorten the time required for our soldiers to receive approval for medical care and other benefits, which they have earned through their military service.

C. Take direct action to improve the lives of wounded soldiers in their communities and, when asked, to advocate on their behalf with government agencies.

- D. Seek to build caring pastoral relationships with wounded soldiers in their families, congregations, communities, or local hospitals.
- E. Encourage the establishment of an Episcopal Veterans Fellowship for each diocese.
- F. Encourage local congregations to establish an annual healing service for wounded military personnel, veterans and others.

#### **C052: Increased Media Coverage of Global Crises**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church call upon all television news outlets in the United States to increase coverage of global crises and the U.S. response to them, particularly:

efforts to realize the Millennium Development Goals,  
the ongoing peace process between north and south Sudan, and  
the ongoing genocide in Darfur; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the secretary of this convention send a copy of this resolution to the programming offices of CNN, MSNBC, CNBC, and FoxNews, and to the news divisions of NBC, ABC, CBS and FOX; and be it further

*Resolved*, That all dioceses, congregations and individuals in the Episcopal Church are strongly urged to *call upon* ~~to lobby~~ the news media on local, regional and national levels to increase the breadth and depth of coverage of these issues.

#### **C056: Liturgies for Blessings**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention acknowledge the changing circumstances in the United States and in other nations, as legislation authorizing or forbidding marriage, civil unions or domestic partnerships for gay and lesbian persons is passed in various civil jurisdictions that call forth a renewed pastoral response from this Church, and for an open process for the consideration of theological and liturgical resources for the blessing of same gender relationships; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, in consultation with the House of Bishops, collect and develop theological and liturgical resources, and report to the 77th General Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, in consultation with the House of Bishops, devise an open process for the conduct of its work inviting participation from provinces, dioceses, congregations, and individuals who are engaged in such theological work, and inviting theological reflection from throughout the Anglican Communion; and be it further

*Resolved*, That bishops, particularly those in dioceses within civil jurisdictions where same-gender marriage, civil unions, or domestic partnerships are legal, may provide generous pastoral response to meet the needs of members of this Church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Convention honor the theological diversity of this Church in regard to matters of human sexuality; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the members of this Church be encouraged to engage in this effort.

#### **D007: Sudan Peace and The Episcopal Church Partnership**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention adopt the following objectives to guide our church's advocacy for peace in Sudan: (a) support for the full and timely implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of 2005, settling the prior civil war between the north and south, (b) support for increased private investment for economic development in southern Sudan, as now permitted by U.S. law, (c) continued and increased U.S. government development assistance in southern Sudan and other areas affected by war in Sudan, and (d) an early end to hostilities in Darfur and elsewhere in Sudan, and assuring full access by humanitarian organizations to assist refugees; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention urge each diocese in The Episcopal Church (TEC) to consider, after careful consultation, entry into a Companion Diocese Relationship or other covenant-based link relationship with a diocese in the Episcopal Church of Sudan (ECS) or with an ECS-approved Bible translation project, as a means (a) to strengthen the proclamation of the Gospel in both the TEC and ECS, and (b) to further the cause of peace in Sudan. Each TEC diocese is requested to report the results of such consideration by July 1, 2010 to the Executive Council for posting on appropriate TEC websites after review by Executive Council; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention request our Presiding Bishop to designate, after consultation with other interested denominations, a period of several weeks in 2010 as a Season of Prayer for peace in Sudan, where our churches are urged to include prayer for peace in Sudan in each public liturgy, and that such Season of Prayer culminate in a National Day of Prayer for peace in Sudan, including the celebration of relationships by TEC dioceses and churches with the ECS.

#### **D011: Principles for Decisions at the End of Life**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention reaffirm Resolution 1991-A093a of the 70th General Convention, as amended in Resolution 1994-A056 of the 71st General Convention regarding Principles With Regard to the Prolongation of Life; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this 76th General Convention calls on dioceses and congregations of this Church to become informed of the laws of states and policies of health care institutions regarding decisions at the end of life and regarding medical futility; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this 76th General Convention commend chaplains endorsed by the Office of the Bishop Suffragan for Armed Forces, Federal Institutions and Chaplaincies, members of the Assembly of Episcopal Healthcare Chaplains and of National Episcopal Healthcare Ministries, and chaplains certified by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, the Association of Professional Chaplains, or the College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy as appropriate resource persons for discussions regarding ethical care, medical futility, and decisions at the end of life.

#### **D014: Environmental Justice**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention support an environmentally just treatment of all in God's Creation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention through the Executive Council direct Diocesan Environmental Commissions or Committees to educate our congregations about public environmental decisions that adversely affect the lives and health of the most vulnerable in our society, especially children, indigenous peoples, and communities of people of color; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Diocesan Commissions or Committees encourage each congregation to refer this resolution to their outreach committee or other such venue in order to ensure the education of their members and to encourage environmentally just actions.

#### **D015: Merciful and Humane Treatment of God's Creatures**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention support the humane and merciful treatment of all of God's Creatures; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention urge Diocesan Environmental Commissions or Committees to provide information to educate our congregations about decisions that would affect the lives and health of endangered species, farmed food animals and domesticated animals; and be it further

*Resolved*, That each congregation be encouraged to refer this resolution to their outreach committee or other such venue in order to ensure the education and dissemination of information to their members about endangered species, farmed food animals and domesticated animals.

#### **D018: Address the Global Economic Crisis**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention recognizes the reality of the global economic crisis that has left the human community both in the United States and around the world in dire economic circumstances; and that we in the Episcopal Church are complicit in the crisis in that we have too often embraced an unrestrained free-market form of capitalism that results in predatory practices of lending and income generation divorced from systems of accountability; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Convention thanks the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Rev. Rowan Williams, for his leadership and teaching offering a Christian response to the global economic crisis including his contributions at this Convention in the Presiding Officer's Forum; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Convention urges the House of Bishops to extend their teaching in their March 2009 "Pastoral Letter" by developing a "Pastoral Teaching Resource" on God's mission and the global economic crisis as soon as possible in the next triennium; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Convention invite dioceses and parishes in The Episcopal Church to focus the season of Lent 2010 as a time of penitential reflection on the brokenness of the global

economic order and its reformation in light of the Gospel using resources developed by such agencies and organizations as: The House of Bishops Theology Committee, Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation, the 2010 Trinity Institute "Building an Ethical Economy", and the Episcopal Network of Economic Justice; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention suggest that diocesan deputations to address the global economic crisis in their own contexts utilizing the lessons and methods of the "Public Narrative Project" introduced at this convention, and/or other community organizing principles consistent with the "Public Narrative Project."

#### **D019: Recommit to MDG's as a Mission Priority**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention commends the leadership of The Episcopal Church at the local, diocesan, and national levels for working towards the meeting of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as an expression of our faithfulness to God's mission of global reconciliation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Convention extend its appreciation to the individuals, parishes and dioceses who, in response to General Convention Resolutions 2003-D066 and 2006-D022, have contributed 0.7% of their annual budgets to international development programs as a sign of our participation in the MDG's; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this convention celebrates the successful raising of three million dollars for international development through the Millennium Inspiration Fund led by Episcopal Relief and Development and partially funded through 0.7% line item budget for the triennium 2007-2009; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Convention reaffirm its commitment to the Millennium Development Goals as a primary mission priority through 2015; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance, to include in the 2010-2012 Budget for The Episcopal Church a budget line item of no less than 1% of the non-government revenue of The Episcopal Church to support the Millennium Development Goals; Increasing from 0.7% to 1% will be a visible and prophetic act of leadership in fighting global poverty. and be it further

*Resolved*, That the funds from the 1% line item be used to support a Nets for Life Inspiration Fund with a goal of five million dollars for the triennium 2010-2012 to be led and administered by Episcopal Relief and Development.

#### **D035: Repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention repudiates and renounces the Doctrine of Discovery as fundamentally opposed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ and our understanding of the inherent rights that individuals and peoples have received from God, and that this declaration be proclaimed among our churches and shared with the United Nations and all the nations and peoples located within The Episcopal Church's boundaries. This doctrine, which originated with Henry VII in 1496, held that Christian sovereigns and their representative explorers could assert dominion and title over non-Christian lands with the full blessing and sanction of the Church. It continues to be invoked, in only slightly modified form, in court cases and in the many

destructive policies of governments and other institutions of the modern nation-state that lead to the colonizing dispossession of the lands of indigenous peoples and the disruption of their way of life; and be it further

*Resolved*, that The Episcopal Church review its policies and programs with a view to exposing the historical reality and impact of the Doctrine of Discovery and eliminating its presence in its contemporary policies, program, and structures and, further, that this body directs the appropriate representatives of the House of Bishops and House of Deputies, to inform all relevant governmental bodies in The United States of its action and suggest similar and equivalent review of historical and contemporary policies that contribute to the continuing colonization of Indigenous Peoples and, further, to write to Queen Elizabeth II, the Supreme Governor of the Church of England, requesting that her Majesty disavow, and repudiate publicly, the claimed validity of the Christian Doctrine of Discovery; and be it further

*Resolved*, that each diocese within the Episcopal Church be encouraged to reflect upon its own history, in light of these actions and encourage all Episcopalians to seek a greater understanding of the Indigenous Peoples within the geo-political boundaries claimed by the United States and other nation states located within the Episcopal Church's boundaries, and to support those peoples in their ongoing efforts for their inherent sovereignty and fundamental human rights as peoples to be respected; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the 76th General Convention direct the Office of Government Relations to advocate for the U.S. government's endorsement of the "United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples," which the United States has refused to endorse (only the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, and Australia have failed to sign on).

#### **D051: "The 80 Cent Solution": Support for World Missionaries**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention commend the "'80-Cent Solution' For World Mission" effort to promote grassroots support for missionaries from The Episcopal Church serving around the world, by inviting contributions of eighty cents (or the equivalent in currencies other than U.S. dollars) per year for each year of the forthcoming triennium, from all baptized members of this Church who are also thereby members of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, with a goal of doubling missionaries of The Episcopal Church; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the funds received be placed in a trust fund of the DFMS to be used at the discretion of the Mission Personnel Office of The Episcopal Church for the support of such missionaries after consulting with the Presiding Bishop and the Treasurer.

#### **D065: Youth Seat Voice and Vote on Vestry**

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*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, ~~That each congregation create at least one youth seat on their Vestry or Bishop's Committee. This seat(s) would include voice and vote for a one year term for a youth between the ages of sixteen and eighteen.~~

*Resolved*, That this 76th General Convention encourage congregations to consider including on their vestries or bishop's committees a seat for youth ages sixteen to eighteen with voice, and with vote except as prohibited by civil law.

### **D075: Mission, the Heartbeat of the Church**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church commend, endorse, and embrace the Presiding Bishop's statement (July 8, 2009) that "the heartbeat of the Church is mission"; and be it further

*Resolved*, That as a sign of our commitment to Christ's mission, the 76th General Convention challenges dioceses and congregations to participate in one new or ongoing project that engages in a relationship with another part of the Body of Christ in the world; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Standing Commission on World Mission be directed to develop strategies to enable and to support individuals, congregations, and dioceses of The Episcopal Church to engage in mission activities which further our participation in God's mission.

### **D090: Inclusive Church Paperwork**

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*Resolved*, That this 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church recommends and encourages all bodies of The Episcopal Church to utilize all available resources to revise and adapt forms to be fully inclusive of all people: by including lines not only for one's legal name, but also for one's preferred name as well as one's gender identity and pronoun preference.

### **D092: Reaffirm (Campus Ministry)**

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*Resolved*, That this 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church reaffirm campus ministry as a fundamental component of mission (2006 A041 and 2003 A066) and continue its financial commitment supporting the establishment of new ministries on college and university campuses.

### **D095: Prison Ministry Sunday**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention urge all dioceses and congregations to focus on ways to minister to God's children behind bars, those returning to the community, and their families and victims.

### **D096: Prevention of Domestic Violence**

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*Resolved*, That the 76th General Convention speak out clearly against the widespread practice of Domestic Violence; and be it further

*Resolved*, That members of General Convention covenant to pray for victims and their families; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we urge the appropriate interim bodies to review and recommend the utilization of existing training developed for Domestic Violence prevention, in order to counter the culture which sustains it; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the convention strongly encourage all Episcopal bishops and other clergy and lay leadership to participate in such training as may be available to them; and be it further

*Resolved*, That clergy take leadership in making such information and training available to their congregations and the community.



<http://www.generalconvention.org>

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