

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-D075
TITLE: Mission, the Heartbeat of the Church
PROPOSER: The Rev. Dr. R. David Cox
COMMITTEE: World Mission

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A037 Reaffirm Commitment to Congregational Health and Evangelism
2006-D022 Establish the Millennium Development Goals as a Mission Priority
2006-D031 Endorse Triennial Budget Mission Priorities Statement
2006-D043 Enable Dialogue on the Mission of the Church at the 76th General Convention

Indirectly Related:

None

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.



Resolution Number: 2006-A037
Title: Reaffirm Commitment to Congregational Health and Evangelism
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention reaffirm our commitment to improve the health of our congregations and our church by faithfully living out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) and by working toward the goals of 20/20; and be it further

Resolved, That each and every bishop deepen his/her commitment, intention, prayer, and action, individually and by working together through the House of Bishops, to cast a vision of mission for the church, and to lead us there; and be it further

Resolved, That every lay person, bishop, priest, and deacon of our church speak with passion about what God is doing in our lives in order to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ; and be it further

Resolved, That following the example of radical hospitality entrusted to us by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, every lay person, bishop, priest, and deacon of our church invite others to join us in praise and service; and be it further

Resolved, That General Convention direct the Church Center staff to engage diverse populations including among others, youth and young adults, ethnic and racial populations, persons of various sexual orientation, persons with disabilities, various socio-economic classes, new immigrants, and communities in Province IX, the Diocese of Haiti, the Virgin Islands, and the Convocation of American Churches in Europe to identify and develop practical resources and training for personal and congregational evangelism; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be published in congregational and diocesan media to affirm our commitment to evangelism.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 322.



Resolution Number: 2006-D022
Title: Establish the Millennium Development Goals as a Mission Priority
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church commend the leaders and members of The Episcopal Church, including Episcopal Relief and Development and program ministries of The Episcopal Church, for their leadership on behalf of the Millennium Development Goals, both through public advocacy and implementation of MDG programs in the developing world; and commend parishes, missions, congregations, and dioceses, and others, like Episcopalians for Global Reconciliation and the Micah Challenge, for their support of the implementation of the MDGs in fulfillment of our Baptismal Covenant and as an expression of the hunger of this Church for far deeper communion with all of God's beloved; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention establish the work toward the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals as a mission priority for the coming triennium, and that each diocese, congregation, and parishioner be urged to commit to 0.7% giving toward these goals by July 7, 2007 (07/07/07); and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget line item of no less than an additional 0.7% (circa \$900,000) of the non-government revenue of The Episcopal Church for work that supports the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals:

1. **Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger**
2. **Achieve universal primary education**
3. **Promote gender equality and empower women**
4. **Reduce child mortality**
5. **Improve maternal health**
6. **Combat HIV and AIDS, malaria and other diseases**
7. **Ensure environmental sustainability, and**
8. **Create a global partnership for development with a focus on debt, aid, and trade.**

And be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention encourage parishes, missions, congregations, and dioceses to designate the Last Sunday after Pentecost, or such days as may be designated ecumenically for commendation of the MDGs, as special days of prayer, fasting, and giving in The Episcopal Church toward global reconciliation and the Millennium Development Goals; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request that all dioceses establish a global reconciliation commission or similar body dedicated to mobilizing Episcopalians toward the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals; and be it further

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on Anglican and International Peace with Justice Concerns report to the 76th General Convention on the progress that has been achieved in implementing this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention endorse "The ONE Campaign," the U.S. movement for the MDGs, through The Episcopal Church's "ONE Episcopalian" campaign; call on all parishes, missions, congregations, dioceses, and individuals to join the ONE Episcopalian campaign; and publicly endorse

The ONE Campaign's call for the United States government to annually spend an additional one percent of its budget to combat global poverty, and to be active advocates for the achievement of this work.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), pp. 522-524.



Resolution Number: 2006-D031
Title: Endorse Triennial Budget Mission Priorities Statement
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention endorse the following statement of mission priorities in rank order for the for the 2007–09 triennium and direct the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget & Finance to use these priorities in forming the Budget for The Episcopal Church.

We offer these mission priorities as an expression of our commitment to Jesus Christ.

We are committed to the importance of our ministry of reconciliation and communion at every level of our communion.

We embrace diversity and seek to promote inclusion and power sharing which underlie and inform all priorities, decisions, and all that we do. In faithfulness to these commitments, we continue to honor our covenants and partnerships with domestic and overseas dioceses. We recognize that the work of mission depends in large part on increasing the leadership capacity of clergy and lay leaders of the church. We affirm the spirit of the budget adopted by the 74th General Convention and identify for the mission of the Church during 2007–2009 the following priorities, listed in rank order of importance:

1. **JUSTICE AND PEACE:** Promoting justice and peace for all of God’s creation and continuing and accelerating the leadership role and programs of The Episcopal Church, which support the eight (8) Millennium Development Goals* in the dioceses of The Episcopal Church and in the world.
2. **YOUNG ADULTS, YOUTH AND CHILDREN:** Reaching out to young adults, youth and children through intentional inclusion and full incorporation in the thinking, work, worship and structure of the Church.
3. **RECONCILIATION AND EVANGELISM:** Reconciling and engaging those who do not know Christ by participating in God’s mission of reconciling all things to Christ and proclaiming the Gospel to those who are not yet members of the church.
4. **CONGREGATIONAL TRANSFORMATION:** Revitalizing and transforming congregations through commitment to leadership development, spiritual growth, lifelong learning, dynamic and inclusive worship, greater diversity, and mission.
5. **PARTNERSHIPS:** Reaffirming the importance of our partnerships with provinces of the Anglican Communion and beyond and our relationships with ecumenical and interfaith partners.

***The Millennium Development Goals**

Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
Achieve universal primary education
Promote gender equality and empower women
Reduce child Mortality
Improve maternal health
Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, and other diseases

Ensure environmental sustainability
Develop a global partnership for development

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), pp. 162-163.



Resolution Number: 2006-D043
Title: Enable Dialogue on the Mission of the Church at the 76th General Convention
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention strongly urge the Joint Standing Committee on Planning and Arrangements, in consultation with the Executive Council, to enable a participatory, vision focused dialogue on the Mission of the Church to take place during times dedicated to that purpose at the 76th General Convention; and be it further
Resolved, That during the triennium, the Executive Council develop and implement a process that will enable the Church to prepare for the dialogue to be held during the 76th General Convention.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 693.

TOPIC/TITLE: Mission Strategy: Mission, the Heartbeat of the Church

PROPOSER: The Rev. Dr. R. David Cox

C&C PAGE:

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- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That this 76th Convention of The Episcopal
 - 2 Church commend, endorse, and embrace our Presiding Bishop's statement that the
 - 3 heartbeat of the Church is mission; and be it further
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 - 5 *Resolved*, That this Convention encourage our Church to pursue our mission with
 - 6 renewed vigor on each and every level of our common life.
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