

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2009-B030
TITLE: Domestic Mission Resolution
PROPOSER: The Rt. Rev. Michael Gene Smith
COMMITTEE: Church in Small Communities

Directly Related: (attached)

2006-A087 Explore a New Definition for "Missionary Dioceses"
2003-A075 Charge Dioceses to Foster a Culture of Mission
1988-A185 Urge Participation in the Companion Diocese Program
1982-A127 Endorse the Companion Diocese Program
1982-A129 Re-affirm and Review the Principles of the Partners in Mission Program

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-A087
Title: Explore a New Definition for “Missionary Dioceses”
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention direct the Standing Commission on Domestic Mission and Evangelism to explore the possibility of a new definition for “Missionary Dioceses,” and report their findings to the 76th General Convention.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 191.



Resolution Number: 2003-A075
Title: Charge Dioceses to Foster a Culture of Mission
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That every diocese in The Episcopal Church be charged to:

- **foster a missional perspective or culture;**
- **foster a culture of partnering with others (congregations, denominations, etc.) for mission and ministry;**
- **equip people to facilitate congregational self-study and strategic planning, including the impact of the congregation's life-cycle in its transformation for mission;**
- **and that bishops organize visitations around these principles.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 336.



Resolution Number: 1988-A185
Title: Urge Participation in the Companion Diocese Program
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Submitted
Final Text:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, **That the 69th General Convention, meeting in Detroit, urge the participation of dioceses and provinces of the Episcopal Church in the Companion Diocese Program as one means of exercising their partnerships with the worldwide Church;** and be it further
Resolved, **That dioceses considering or currently engaged in companion relationships make full use of the Companion Diocese Provincial Network and the World Mission staff of the Episcopal Church Center, especially in initiating and evaluating companion relationships;** and be it further
Resolved, **That emerging Anglican Communion guidelines for companion relationships be honored in all relationships formally endorsed and established by Executive Council action, with special care that such relationships seek to cultivate provincial unity, and that they not complicate or hinder the implementation of previously agreed provincial priorities.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Detroit, 1988* (New York: General Convention, 1989), p. 481.



Resolution Number: 1982-A127
Title: Endorse the Companion Diocese Program
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Submitted
Final Text:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, **That the 67th General Convention, meeting in New Orleans, endorses the Companion Diocese relationship program as a major priority for mission;** and be it further *Resolved*, **That the Executive Council be requested to establish more effective ways of servicing existing companion relationships, initiate new relationships, and provide adequate personnel for the implementation of this program priority.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, New Orleans, 1982* (New York: General Convention, 1983), p. C-174.



Resolution Number: 1982-A129
Title: Re-affirm and Review the Principles of the Partners in Mission Program
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, **That the 67th General Convention, meeting in New Orleans, reaffirms its commitment to the principles of Partners in Mission as established by the Anglican Consultative Council and endorsed by the 65th General Convention;** and be it further
Resolved, **That the domestic provinces of ECUSA be requested to initiate a review of the principles of Partners in Mission, their successes and failures, and work with the Executive Council to implement a plan that will be appropriate for use in ECUSA in the furtherance of Mission.**

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, New Orleans, 1982* (New York: General Convention, 1983), p. C-175.

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TOPIC/TITLE: Companion Dioceses: Domestic Mission Resolution

PROPOSER: The Rt. Rev. Michael Gene Smith

C&C PAGE:

BB PAGE:

1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 76th General Convention direct the
 2 Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society to facilitate and encourage companion
 3 domestic mission relationships among dioceses and congregations within The Episcopal
 4 Church, and especially with the member dioceses of the Domestic Missionary Partnership
 5 (DMP); and be it further

6
 7 *Resolved*, That the General Convention direct the Executive Council in collaboration with
 8 the DMP to study the needs of and recommend ways to expand domestic mission, and to
 9 report to the 77th General Convention.

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EXPLANATION:

A number of Missionary Districts were "elevated" to the status of Diocese in 1970 despite the fact they were not financially self-supporting. Some of these are now members of the Domestic Missionary Partnership. In addition, many congregations have been blessed by mission partnership relationships in post-Katrina Louisiana. Building on this momentum, now is the time to embrace the opportunity for expanding work in the domestic mission field. The Domestic Missionary Partnership is an active partnership of dioceses that, by Baptism, are sent into the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The current membership of the DMP consists of the dioceses of Alaska, Arizona, Central New York, Eastern Oregon, Eau Claire, El Camino Real, Idaho, Mississippi, Nevada, North Dakota, Utah, Western Kansas and the Navajoland Area Mission. All dioceses are invited to join the DMP. See www.domesticmissionarypartnership.org.

Endorser(s): The Rt. Rev. Thomas Clark Ely, The Rt. Rev. E. Ambrose Gumbs