

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2009-C037  
**TITLE:** Establish ERD Sunday  
**PROPOSER:** Diocese of Washington  
**COMMITTEE:** Prayer Book, Liturgy & Church Music

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**Directly Related:** (attached)

2000-A109 Commend and Endorse the Presiding Bishop's Capital Fund Campaign  
1985-A082 Affirm the Church's Response to Global Hunger  
1985-A103 Reaffirm the Church's Central Mission of Ministry With the Poor and Oppressed  
1982-A154 Call Upon Congregations to Increase Their Ministry to the Poor

**Indirectly Related:**

2006-D022 Establish the Millennium Development Goals as a Mission Priority  
2003-D006 Endorse UN Millennium Development Goals  
1988-A111 Call Upon Members to Work on Behalf of the Poor and the Common Good

*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:** 2000-A109  
**Title:** Commend and Endorse the Presiding Bishop's Capital Fund Campaign  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

***Resolved, That the 73rd General Convention commend to the church the proposed capital campaign of the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief and heartily endorse this effort to develop a significant endowment to increase the Fund's ability to address the root causes of poverty, ill health, illiteracy, and economic injustice, and for the support of necessary administration of the Fund.***

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 2000* (New York: General Convention, 2001), p. 500.



**Resolution Number:** 1985-A082  
**Title:** Affirm the Church's Response to Global Hunger  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Substituted and Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Bishops concurring, **That this 68th General Convention affirm the response of the Episcopal Church to global hunger and famine; and be it further**

*Resolved*, **That the Episcopal Church observe October 16 of each year as World Food Day and use the week which includes this date to join with religious and secular organizations in local communities everywhere to study the root causes of hunger at home and abroad; and be it further**

*Resolved*, **That the National Hunger Committee and the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief, through their networks, continue to provide opportunities and educational resources to assist Episcopalians to work actively towards eradication of hunger through:**

1. **Generous gifts for relief, rehabilitation and developmental aid;**
2. **Participation in local hunger relief programs;**
3. **Public policy advocacy to encourage domestic and international relief and to promote just distribution of the world's resources; and**
4. **Worship, prayer, education and reflection;**

and be it further

*Resolved*, **That Episcopalians be encouraged to use the opportunities afforded by the diversity of the Anglican Communion to institute partnership programs in development which address basic issues of hunger, disease, poverty, discrimination, and illiteracy; and be it further**

*Resolved*, **That congregations be encouraged to develop programs and to share their discoveries and responses through the networks of the National Hunger Committee and the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 1985* (New York: General Convention, 1986), p. 204.



**Resolution Number:** 1985-A103  
**Title:** Reaffirm the Church's Central Mission of Ministry With the Poor and Oppressed  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Submitted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Bishops concurring, **That the 68th General Convention reaffirm the conviction that a ministry of joint discipleship in Christ with poor and oppressed people is at the heart of the mission of the church.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 1985* (New York: General Convention, 1986), p. 158.



**Resolution Number:** 1982-A154  
**Title:** Call Upon Congregations to Increase Their Ministry to the Poor  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Submitted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, **That, after hearing the Presiding Bishop's challenge to this Church to listen to the cries of the poor and to respond with true commitment to this "next step," this 67th General Convention endorse that challenge and call upon each congregational grouping in the Church, large or small:**

1. **To increase, to the limit of its ability, its ministry to the poor in its own neighborhood, and**
2. **To share a portion of its financial resources with the larger Church to provide needed assistance so that all congregations may minister more effectively to the poor, such offerings to be administered by the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief and the Coalition for Human Needs;**

and be it further

*Resolved*, **That the Presiding Bishop and the Executive Council are hereby directed to devise a plan of action for this next step.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, New Orleans, 1982* (New York: General Convention, 1983), p. C-137.

TOPIC/TITLE: Establish ERD Sunday  
PROPOSER: Diocese of Washington  
C&C PAGE:  
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- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, that the 76th General Convention of The
- 2 Episcopal Church designate the first Sunday in Lent as Episcopal Relief and
- 3 Development Sunday and that congregations and individuals be encouraged to support
- 4 Episcopal Relief and Development's life-saving work through prayer and a special
- 5 offering that will help heal a hurting world.
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EXPLANATION:

In 2008, the Presiding Bishop designated the first Sunday in Lent as Episcopal Relief and Development Sunday and as an annual celebration of Episcopal Relief and Development's role in our collective mission to seek and serve Christ in all persons. The Episcopal Church's ongoing commitment to fight poverty and disease around the world is lived out in a variety of ways. Advocacy with our government for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals is one vital way. Another is through the ministry of Episcopal Relief and Development, which, as the relief and development arm of The Episcopal Church, works globally to alleviate hunger, fight disease, and strengthen communities.