

**General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022
Archives' Research Report**

Resolution No.: 2022-A013
Title: A Plan for Clarifying the Calendar of The Episcopal Church
Proposer: Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music
Topic: Church Calendar

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-A065 Authorize Continued Use of *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* 2006

Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

None

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.

A013 - A Plan for Clarifying the Calendar of The Episcopal Church

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

HiA: HB

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 12 - Prayer Book, Liturgy & Music

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention approves a process to establish a “clear and unambiguous” Calendar of the Church, organized as follows:

1. The Calendar of *The Book of Common Prayer*, to include the authorized Principal Feasts, Feasts of Our Lord, Major Feasts, Holy Days, Days of Special Devotion, and saints of the Apostolic Age;

and

2. The Expanded Calendar of Feasts and Fasts, which expands commemorations into the post-apostolic age with authorized feasts and fasts;

And be it further

Resolved, that the following criteria shall be used for commemorations.

I. The Calendar of *The Book of Common Prayer* (Principal Feasts, Feasts of Our Lord, Major Feasts, Holy Days and Days of Special Devotion):

Received Tradition: Grounded in the witness of Holy Scripture and the received tradition, this Calendar includes Feasts of our Lord, Holy Days, and Days of Special Devotion, as

described in "The Calendar of the Church Year" in *The Book of Common Prayer 1979* beginning on page 15. Most of these have been observed ecumenically for centuries.

Extended Tradition: Grounded in the witness of Holy Scripture, this Calendar should be enlarged to diversify the extraordinary, apostolic-age witnesses currently in the tradition; authorized by The Episcopal Church during the process of Prayer Book revision; and possibly including anonymous or pseudonymous, and commonly acknowledged, witnesses whose words or example have formed Christian faith and practice.

Current Use of the Calendar: As described in *The Book of Common Prayer 1979*, Principal Feasts, Sundays and Holy Days have primacy of place in the Church's liturgical observance.

II. The Expanded Calendar of the Church: *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, revised and authorized by The General Convention of the Church;

And be it further

Resolved, that the Standing Commission for Liturgy and Music (SCLM) shall evaluate and periodically review the best place to display the Calendar so that it may most effectively support the formation and devotion of the Church, both in consideration of and in conjunction with ongoing revision of *The Book of Common Prayer*;

And be it further

Resolved, that the SCLM makes specific provisions to support and encourage local commemorations as part of the continuing expansion of the Calendar.

Explanation

In Resolution 2018-A065 of the 79th General Convention charged the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to "provide the 80th General Convention with a clear and unambiguous plan for a singular calendar of *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*."

This resolution responds to these directions of General Convention.



Resolution Number: 2018-A065
Title: Authorize Continued Use of Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2006
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention authorize the continued use of Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2006; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention commend the continued availability of Great Cloud of Witnesses 2015 for the 2018-2021 triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That the new commemorations in Lesser Feasts and Fasts 2018 proposed by the SCLM be authorized for trial use and be included in the calendar for the 2018-2021 triennium, under Article X(b); and be it further

Resolved, That the SCLM provide the 80th General Convention with a clear and unambiguous plan for a singular calendar of Lesser Feasts and Fasts.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 679.