

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-A085
Title: Creation Of A Digital Hub For Formation Resources (in English, Spanish, and French)
Proposer: Task Force on Theological Education Networking
Topic: Christian Formation

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-A022 Create a Theological Education Network Task Force
2018-C005 Create a Task Force on Formation and Ministry of the Baptized

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.

A085 - Creation Of A Digital Hub For Formation Resources (In English, Spanish, And French)

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Task Force on Theological Education Networking

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: Yes

Cost: \$30,000.00

HiA: HD

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 14 - Christian Formation & Discipleship

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention instruct Executive Council to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Formation and Ministry of the Baptized and the Task Force on Theological Networking to develop a plan for a sustainable digital hub for Episcopalians to access formation resources for lay and ordained vocations; and be it further

Resolved, That Executive Council present a report with the plan (to include recommended structure, content, staffing, timeline, and budget) to the 81st General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That \$30,000 be budgeted for the work of developing this plan over the next triennium.

Explanation

The Task Force on Formation and Ministry of the Baptized and the Task Force on Theological Networking are short-term solutions for work that needs to be on-going at a denominational level. This online hub would provide vetted resources for leaders to adapt for their contexts. The curation by subject-area experts gives the opportunity to uplift voices from around the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion. Given the variety of

situational needs, giving leaders a place to begin will set them off on the right path as they explore their own spiritual discernment, help to develop others' discernment process, or prepare for ordination formation could be.

This online hub will connect seekers of discernment resources with proven formation processes, materials, and networks to facilitate vocational development, without having to develop tools on their own. To uplift exemplars and alternative ministry models' development processes would give leaders a more expansive resource list as they nurture faith communities for an uncertain future.

Refer to the resolution explanation provided by The Task Force on Formation and Ministry of the Baptized for more information and details.



Resolution Number: 2018-A022
Title: Create a Theological Education Network Task Force
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention authorize a Theological Education Networking Task Force with membership appointed by Presiding Officers consisting of four lay persons, one priest, one deacon, and one bishop who represent the cultural and theological diversity in the Church, be established to serve as a networking and informational referral hub for the discernment, development, and dissemination of theological education and formation resources for lay and clergy leaders in small congregations; and be it further

Resolved, That the Theological Education Networking Task Force collect, assemble, evaluate, and publicize to dioceses and congregations the resources currently offered across The Episcopal Church for the training of commissions on ministry and discernment committees to focus on the education, training, and formation of leaders who serve in small congregations with a special emphasis on alternative theological education pathways; and be it further

Resolved, That the Theological Education Networking Task Force work with the House of Bishops, through agencies such as the College for Bishops, and with the Presiding Bishop's office and dioceses in collecting, disseminating, and encouraging the use of resources and best practices for identifying, educating, and forming clergy and lay leaders of small congregations; and be it further

Resolved, That the Theological Education Networking Task Force submit to the Executive Council Joint Standing Committee on Local Ministry and Mission a quarterly written report of its activities and complete its work by the 80th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$60,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), pp. 1106-1107.



Resolution Number: 2018-C005
Title: Create a Task Force on Formation and Ministry of the Baptized
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted and Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention direct the President of the House of Deputies and the Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church to appoint a Task Force on Formation and Ministry of the Baptized including members experienced in Christian formation and education, and consisting of a minimum of two bishops, five (5) priests and/or deacons and five (5) lay persons, who represent the diversity of the Church; and be it further

Resolved, That this task force identify or develop curricula, practices, and strategies that can be used by dioceses and congregations to encourage and engage all the baptized in the work of building up the church by identifying their gifts for ministry, employing their gifts for ministry, and focusing on full engagement of their ministries in daily life, work, and leisure; and be it further

Resolved, That this task force report to the 80th General Convention with recommended strategies for the affirmation, development, and exercise of ministry by all baptized persons in the areas of gifts discernment, education and training for ministry, and leadership development; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$60,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 1135.