

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-C003
Title: Withdrawl of the name the Rev. William Porcher DuBose from the Lesser Feasts and Fasts Calendar
Proposer: Southeast Florida
Topic: Church Calendar

Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-A044 Set Essential Components of Anti-Racism or Racial Reconciliation Training
2018-A065 Authorize Continued Use of *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* 2006
2006-A123 Study Economic Benefits Derived from Slavery

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

2009-A143 Extend 2006 Resolution to Examine and Repent for Complicity in Slavery
2006-C011 Support Legislation for Reparations for Slavery

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.

C003 - Withdrawl of the name the Rev. William Porcher DuBose from the Lesser Feasts and Fasts Calendar

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Southeast Florida

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 Rev. William Porcher Dubose observed on every occurrence of August 18th in the liturgical year, be withdrawn from the Lesser Feasts and Fasts Calendar of the Church.

Explanation

1. It is stated in the citation for The Rev. William Porcher Dubose, August 18th, that he was “possibly the greatest theologian the Episcopal Church has ever produced.”
2. It also states, “He preached the faith as it is in Christ Jesus.”
3. The truth is Rev. Dubose served as an officer in the Confederate Army, and
4. The Rev. Dubose’s family owned 204 slaves.
5. In all of his scholarly writings and teaching, there is never a mention that Rev. Dubose renounced slavery or his participation as a traitor against the United States by serving in the Confederate Army.
6. The Episcopal Church should not be honoring a man who saw no conflict in teaching Jesus, but believing that Jesus would somehow condone the enslaving, killing, torturing and destroying of the families of a people, slaves or free.



Resolution Number: 2018-A044
Title: Set Essential Components of Anti-Racism or Racial Reconciliation Training
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention recognizes that widely different criteria have been used across the Church to determine if the completion of anti-racism training required in Title III and resolution 2000-B049 has been satisfied; and be it further

Resolved, that The Episcopal Church recognizes that in order to maintain a common theological framework in our commitment to dismantle the sin of racism that these specific components are essential to include in any Episcopal Anti-racism or Racial Reconciliation training:

**1) Liturgy, preferably a celebration of Eucharist when possible or other corporate worship, grounding the work in scripture and spiritual formation
(Proclaiming the Dream of Beloved Community)**

**2) An Historical Component—including but not limited to (and, as appropriate to the context where the training is offered): The Episcopal Church’s role in slavery, its history with segregation and discrimination of people of color, the Doctrine of Discovery, The Episcopal Church’s role in taking indigenous children from their families through our participation in the boarding school system, and the Church’s responses to racism through the years.
(Telling the Truth about the Church and Race)**

**3) An Information or Didactic Component—including, but not limited to: the Baptismal Covenant, power, class, race, racism, internalized racial privilege, internalized racial oppression, implicit racial bias, intercultural awareness and communication, becoming co-conspirators in dismantling racism, and envisioning racial reconciliation.
(Repairing the Breach)**

**4) Engagement—including, but not limited to: establishing respectful communication guidelines, discussion, Bible Study, and other activities as indicated to accomplish learning objectives for these components.
(Practicing the Way of Love);**

And be it further

Resolved, that the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism continue to collect and develop, in collaboration with the staff, Christian Formation professionals, and The Absalom Jones Episcopal Center for Racial Healing, resources and best practices for dismantling racism that can be shared online to aide in the consistent fulfillment of the requirement for anti-racism training for lay and ordained leaders across the Church.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 668.



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.



Resolution Number: 2006-A123
Title: Study Economic Benefits Derived from Slavery
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church declare unequivocally that the institution of slavery in the United States and anywhere else in the world, based as it is on “ownership” of some persons by other persons, was and is a sin and a fundamental betrayal of the humanity of all persons who were involved, a sin that continues to plague our common life in the Church and our culture; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church acknowledge its history of participation in this sin and the deep and lasting injury which the institution of slavery and its aftermath have inflicted on society and on the Church; and be it further

Resolved, That we express our most profound regret that (a) The Episcopal Church lent the institution of slavery its support and justification based on Scripture, and (b) after slavery was formally abolished, The Episcopal Church continued for at least a century to support de jure and de facto segregation and discrimination; and be it further

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church apologize for its complicity in and the injury done by the institution of slavery and its aftermath; we repent of this sin and ask God’s grace and forgiveness; and be it further

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church through the Executive Council urgently initiate a comprehensive program and urge every Diocese to collect and document during the next triennium detailed information in its community on (a) the complicity of The Episcopal Church in the institution of slavery and in the subsequent history of segregation and discrimination and (b) the economic benefits The Episcopal Church derived from the institution of slavery; and direct the Committee on Anti-Racism to monitor this program and report to Executive Council each year by March 31 on the progress in each Diocese; and be it further

Resolved, That to enable us as people of God to make a full, faithful and informed accounting of our history, the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church direct the Committee on Anti-Racism to study and report to Executive Council by March 31, 2008, which in turn will report to the 76th General Convention, on how the Church can be “the repairer of the breach” (Isaiah 58:12), both materially and relationally, and achieve the spiritual healing and reconciliation that will lead us to a new life in Christ; and be it further

Resolved, That to mark the commencement of this program the Presiding Bishop is requested to name a Day of Repentance and on that day to hold a Service of Repentance at the National Cathedral, and each Diocese is requested to hold a similar service.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), pp. 664-665.