

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-C034
Title: Endorsing Resolutions Proposed by the Union of Black Episcopalians for Adoption by the 80th General Convention
Proposer: Delaware
Topic: Justice, Racism

Directly Related: (Attached)

None

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.

C034 - Endorsing Resolutions Proposed by the Union of Black Episcopalians for Adoption by the 80th General Convention

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: Delaware

Requests New Interim Body: No

Amends C&C or Rules of Order: No

Has Budget Implications: No

Cost:

HiA: HD

Legislative Committee Currently Assigned: 09 - Racial Justice & Reconciliation

Completion Status: Incomplete

Latest House Action: N/A

Supporting Documents: No

Resolution Text

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring,

That the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Commission of this diocese be requested to review said resolutions, making direct application of their content towards efforts of Building Beloved Community in the Episcopal Church in Delaware; and be it further

Resolved, that the Racial Justice and Reconciliation Commission submit their review of said resolutions to the Delaware deputation so that they are equipped to address the resolutions offered by the Union of Black Episcopalians at the 80th General Convention.

Explanation

The 237th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Church in Delaware affirm the work of the Union of Black Episcopalians and commends and urges robust consideration of their resolutions at the 80th General Convention.

The resolutions are:

- 1) Funding for Funding of the Chaplaincies at the HBCUs
- 2) Promote Equity and Reduce Differences in Health Care Outcomes

- 3) The Creation of a Clergy Retirement Contribution Fund
- 4) Continued Funding of the Beloved Community
- 5) The Funding of the Implementation of the Internalized Oppression Curriculum
- 6) Establishing Equity in the Awarding of TEC Grants
- 7) Address the Issue of Voter Suppression
- 8) Address the Issue of Mass Incarceration
- 9) Address the Issue of Private Prisons
- 10) Inclusion of a Hymn in Honor of Dr. Artemisia Bowden
- 11) To Direct the Removal of the Name of the Rev. William Porcher DuBose from the Lesser Feasts and Fasts Calendar
- 12) To Include Barbara Clementine Harris on the Lesser Feasts and Fasts Calendar
- 13) To Establish Lift Every Voice and Sing as the National Hymn
- 14) To Encourage the Usage of the Sacred Ground Curriculum
- 15) To Adopt the Emmett Till Anti-Lynching Act
- 16) Requiring Action in Response to TEC's Racial Audit
- 17) Regarding the Inclusion of Juneteenth in the Lesser Feasts and Fasts Calendar

"Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?" These familiar words from our Baptismal Covenant introduce the recent Racial Justice Audit of Episcopalians by The Episcopal Church nationally. The audit is but one part of Becoming Beloved Community efforts across The Episcopal Church. The Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE) has considered the principles of Becoming Beloved Community and how to "respond to racial injustice not so much [with] a set of programs as a journey, a set of interrelated commitments around which Episcopalians may organize our many efforts to respond to racial injustice and grow a community of reconcilers, justice-makers, and healers." In response, they developed seventeen resolutions which will be submitted to the 80th General Convention in Baltimore (July 2022) by UBE. To read the resolutions and explanations, go to <https://www.ube.org/Resources/black-deputies.html>

At the time when our own efforts in Becoming Beloved Community in Delaware include the work of The Racial Justice & Reconciliation Commission (RJRC), it is appropriate for our convention to respond to a request from the UBE leadership. At its 53rd Annual Business Meeting this past July, UBE leadership called upon local chapters to take their part in impacting the diocesan and national church direction by using the UBE resolutions as a model for legislation that can be written for consideration by diocesan conventions.

From the preamble of the RJRC: The Church cannot turn away from the events we have witnessed and the ugly truths that they reveal about racism in our country, our church, and ourselves. We will strive within ourselves and our church to recognize, understand, and confront our racism and to change to better reflect the love of God for each and all of us. We will strive to internalize our Baptismal Covenant so that our thoughts, words, and actions reflexively proclaim the good news of the Gospel. When we fall short in this work, which we will, we will have the courage to repent and try again. This is our work as disciples of Jesus. We in the Episcopal Church in Delaware commit ourselves and our resources to do this Holy work with God's help. Each individual resolution can be seen in full, along with the rationale supporting it, by visiting the UBE website as shown above.