

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2022-C035
Title: Establishment of Task Force for Training Modules on Slavery and Reparations
Proposer: New York
Topic: Racism, Reconciliation, Structure

Directly Related: (Attached)

- 2018-A015 Direct Interim Bodies to Undergo Anti-Racism Training
- 2018-A043 Revise Mandate for Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism
- 2018-A044 Set Essential Components of Anti-Racism or Racial Reconciliation Training
- 2018-A045 Reaffirm and Report on Anti-Racism Training
- 2018-D002 Request Funding for Racial Reconciliation Initiatives
- 2015-C019 Work for Racial Justice and Reconciliation
- 2015-D040 Develop Anti-Racism Youth Ministry Curriculum
- 2012-A125 Recommit to Anti-Racism Work
- 2012-A127 Recommit to Anti-Racism Work
- 2009-A142 Recommit the Church to Anti-Racism and Request Annual Diocesan Reports
- 2009-A143 Extend 2006 Resolution to Examine and Repent for Complicity in Slavery
- 2009-A144 Reaffirm a Resolution on Truth, Reconciliation and Restorative Justice
- 2006-A092 Applaud Anti-Racism Training
- 2006-A127 Endorse Restorative Justice and Anti-Racism
- 2006-C011 Support Legislation for Reparations for Slavery

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

- 2015-A023 Authorize Continuation of the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism
- 2003-A018 On the topic of Inclusion of Minority Groups in HIV/AIDS Drug Trials (Rejected)
- 2000-A047 Extend Anti-Racism Commitment for Another Nine Years
- 2000-B029 Recognize the Ministry of Communication of the Episcopal Church

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.

C035 - Establishment of Task Force for Training Modules on Slavery and Reparations

Final Status: Not Yet Finalized

Proposed by: New York

Requests New Interim Body: Yes

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 80th General Convention to establish a task force that will create training modules on the topic of slavery and reparations, for use by the whole Church in the training of children and adults as they are prepared for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Explanation

Since 2005 the Episcopal Diocese of New York has engaged in a variety of opportunities with the objective of working towards disclosing our complicity in the slave trade and its aftermath. These efforts have resulted in unearthing truths related to the history of some of our congregations and organizations, a process which is ongoing.

As the Reparations Committee continues its mission, it has found that a number of our congregations are doing serious and substantive work in addressing their histories. Others are at the very beginning of doing this work, and some are deciding whether they wish to engage in it. Wherever they may be on the continuum, it is vital for this important work to continue. Therefore, we are requesting the General Convention to authorize the creation of modules on the topic of slavery and reparations to be used by the whole church in the training of children and adults as they are prepared for the sacrament of Confirmation.

In response to resolutions of the 2015 General Convention challenging us to learn more about our Church, the General Convention authorized a racial audit. The audit collected data from a sampling of three dioceses from each province (our diocese was not one selected for participation) along with a sampling of specifically identified people Racial Justice Audit Report_ENG (episcopalchurch.org). The Reparations Committee feels that an audit of this diocese will provide results that enable us to develop criteria for the expenditure of our reparations fund. Results will also provide insight into the way we view and work with our diverse diocesan community.



Resolution Number: 2018-A015
Title: Direct Interim Bodies to Undergo Anti-Racism Training
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention affirm that the “mission of the Church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ” (BCP 855, Catechism). And that the work of The Jesus Movement is articulated in the pursuit of the reconciliation of humanity in the pursuit of Racial Reconciliation; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention acknowledge the work of the Church happening in Interim Bodies is done by groups of Episcopal neighbors, initially strangers to one another, under time and budget constraints and that, as Interim Bodies work, opportunities abound for conscious and unconscious bias to manifest itself and can take the form of oppression and aggression counter to the work of the Body and the Gospel; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention require the constituted Interim Bodies of the 2019-2021 triennium to include an Anti-Racism/Diversity/Bias Awareness component at their initial meetings and that the cost of such trainings be folded into the budget for each Interim Body.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 689.



Resolution Number: 2018-A043
Title: Revise Mandate for Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted
Final Text:

Resolved, That the mandate for the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism be amended, and hereby read as follows:

“This Committee is charged with supporting and monitoring the Church’s work in response to General Convention resolutions directed at eliminating the sin of racism from the life of the Church by:

Recognizing and developing its work of racial healing, justice, and reconciliation as a fundamental and requisite part of Christian formation; supporting the work of Becoming Beloved Community: The Episcopal Church’s Long-Term Commitment to Racial Healing, Justice, and Reconciliation; recommending best practices for dismantling racism training; collecting information from dioceses and provinces about their successes and challenges in complying with the canonical requirements and with General Convention Resolution 2000-B049 for providing anti-racism training; and sharing their findings with Executive Council on an annual basis.”

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), pp. 667-668.



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-A045

Title: Reaffirm and Report on Anti-Racism Training

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted

Final Text:

Resolved, That we acknowledge that not all dioceses have followed the spirit of the anti-racism training required in Title III or General Convention Resolution 2000-B049 regarding training of all ordained persons and lay leadership; and be it further

Resolved, That we acknowledge that the work of dismantling racism is an essential part of spiritual formation; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention re-affirms the necessity and importance of anti-racism training for the lay and ordained leadership of The Episcopal Church, including all ordained persons, professional staff, and those elected or appointed to committees, commissions, agencies, task forces, and boards; and be it further

Resolved, That the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism and The Episcopal Church staff, The Absalom Jones Episcopal Center for Racial Healing and Christian Formation professionals be encouraged to work together to continue to expand the resources available for trainings that can be adapted to different contexts and that address the multiplicity and intersectionality of oppressions that exist in society, and maintain online a recommended list of curricula and programs as they are developed, that could be used for anti-racism training and for training facilitators; and be it further

Resolved, That the lay and ordained leadership of The Episcopal Church are also expected to engage in ongoing spiritual formation and education focused on racial healing, justice, and reconciliation as part of our Church's commitment to Becoming Beloved Community; and be it further

Resolved, That each committee, commission, agency, task force, and board, and each province and diocese maintain a register of those who have participated in training, and annually report to the Executive Council through the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism by January 1 each year, how many people have participated in training and what other Becoming Beloved Community formation opportunities have been offered and that the Council report on this information to future General Conventions until such time as the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism or its succeeding body determines it is no longer necessary.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 669.



Resolution Number: 2018-D002

Title: Request Funding for Racial Reconciliation Initiatives

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Final Text:

Resolved, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance allocate \$5.0 million for the triennium for the implementation of additional work of organizing our efforts to respond to racial injustice and grow a Beloved Community of healers, justice makers and reconcilers for the implementation of this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That such monies shall be utilized exclusively to make grants to agencies and dioceses and other affiliated entities of The Episcopal Church for the establishment of such programmatic activities aimed at addressing the issue of Racial Reconciliation. Such activities may include, but not be limited to, speaker series, sacred conversations, Racial Reconciliation Workshops, and other activities that promote the purposes of this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That this General Convention directs, consistent with established policies and procedures, that the Executive Council be charged with the establishment of all criteria, and procedures associated with the awarding of such grants, and that such criteria and procedures be established as soon as practical, after the conclusion of this 79th General Convention such Committee or Office that Executive Council shall designate with implementation of the grants shall have published the criteria and be ready to accept applications submitted for such grants, and that the entities receiving such grants shall report back to the Committee or Office that Executive Council shall have designated on the usage of its grant, and that the Executive Council shall report back to the General Convention in 2021 on the usage of the \$5.0 million allocation.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 465.



Resolution Number: 2015-C019

Title: Work for Racial Justice and Reconciliation

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Substituted

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church confesses that, despite repeated efforts at anti-racism training as well as racial justice and racial reconciliation initiatives including the passage of more than 30 General Convention resolutions dating back to 1952, the abomination and sin of racism continue to plague our society and our Church at great cost to human life and human dignity; we formally acknowledge our historic and contemporary participation in this evil and repent of it; and be it further

Resolved, That in the wake of the brutal, overtly racist murders of nine of our Christian brothers and sisters of Emanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church on June 17, 2015; numerous inexcusable deaths of unarmed black men and youth at the hands of law enforcement personnel; and the moral atrocity of mass incarceration in which a hugely disproportionate number of persons of color have been unfairly caught in the net of an unjust criminal justice system, the 78th General Convention affirms as a top priority of The Episcopal Church in the upcoming triennium the challenging and difficult work of racial reconciliation through prayer, teaching, engagement, and action; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church understands and affirms that the call to pray and act for racial reconciliation is integral to our witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ and to our living into the demands of our Baptismal Covenant; and be it further

Resolved, That the Presiding Bishop, President of the House of Deputies, Vice President of the House of Bishops, and Vice President of the House of Deputies be charged to lead, direct, and be present to assure and account for the Church's work of racial justice and reconciliation; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$1.2 million for the Triennium for the implementation of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), pp. 310-311.



Resolution Number: 2015-D040

Title: Develop Anti-Racism Youth Ministry Curriculum

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention continue the work of Anti-Racism training adopted at the 75th and 76th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the Officer for Youth Ministries and Missioner for Racial Reconciliation partner with other church offices and organizations as appropriate to commission a gospel-centered, Internet-integrated, action-oriented, anti-racism youth ministry curriculum for congregations throughout The Episcopal Church, including those not in the United States, to be provided in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole; and be it further

Resolved, That in addition to printed versions of youth educational materials and curricula for Anti-Racism, online versions of the educational materials and curricula be made available on The Episcopal Digital Network; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to allocate \$50,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 453.



Resolution Number: 2012-A125

Title: Recommit to Anti-Racism Work

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention recommit and declare itself to be dedicated to continuing the work against the sin of racism in all of its forms; and be it further

Resolved, That a culture, expectation, and practice of anti-racism permeate the life of The Episcopal Church; and be it further

Resolved, That anti-racism principles and practices permeate the work of all teams of the DFMS, monitored and networked by a staff officer; and be it further

Resolved, That anti-racism principles and practices permeate the work of all volunteers participating in the governance structures of The Episcopal Church; and be it further

Resolved, That anti-racism training oversight and implementation be carried out on provincial and diocesan levels for all Episcopalians; and be it further

Resolved, That all dioceses and provinces initiate anti-racism training if they have not already done so and continue to engage in anti-racism training on an ongoing basis; and be it further

Resolved, That the provinces report annually to the Executive Council on the progress being made in fulfillment of this resolution; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$180,000 to be distributed and used by the Provinces for the implementation of this resolution during the 2013–2015 triennium.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), p. 489.



Resolution Number: 2012-A127

Title: Recommit to Anti-Racism Work

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Final Text:

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church recommit and declare itself to be dedicated to continuing to work against the sin of racism; and be it further

Resolved, That anti-racism training oversight and implementation be carried out on provincial and diocesan levels for all Episcopalian; and be it further

Resolved, That all dioceses and provinces receive anti-racism training if they have not already done so and continue to engage in anti-racism training on an ongoing basis; and be it further

Resolved, That dioceses and provinces use existing programs and ministries, or develop new programs and ministries, to dismantle and eradicate structures of racism, both internally and externally, and integrate the practices of anti-racism into their ongoing life.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), pp. 698-699.



Resolution Number: 2009-A142
Title: Recommit the Church to Anti-Racism and Request Annual Diocesan Reports
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church recommit and declare itself to be dedicated to continuing to work against the sin of racism; and be it further

Resolved, That the Office of Anti-Racism and Gender Equality continue to design and deliver anti-racism, classism and ethnic discrimination training that examines factors and circumstances which maintain racism, classism and ethnic discrimination in the Church and in civil society; and be it further

Resolved, That all dioceses and provinces receive anti-racism training if they have not already done so or renew training that has been previously taken; and be it further

Resolved, That dioceses and provinces develop programs and ministries to dismantle and eradicate structures of racism, both internally and externally, and integrate the practices of anti-racism into their ongoing life; and be it further

Resolved, That the Anti-Racism Committee of Executive Council develop a monitoring and reporting process for the dioceses, and that dioceses make annual reports to the Anti-Racism Committee of Executive Council.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), p. 742



Resolution Number: 2009-A143
Title: Extend 2006 Resolution to Examine and Repent for Complicity in Slavery
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church agree to extend Resolution A123, which was passed at the 75th General Convention, through the 2013-2015 triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That, as directed by Resolution 2006-A123, the General Convention encourage each diocese to continue over the next six years a process to gather information in its community on (1) the complicity of The Episcopal Church in the institution of slavery and in the subsequent history of segregation and discrimination, (2) examples of resistance to slavery and discrimination and (3) the economic benefits derived by The Episcopal Church from the transatlantic slave trade and the institution of slavery; and be it further

Resolved, That dioceses consult with the anti-racism officer of The Episcopal Church for resources to aid them in doing this work; and be it further

Resolved, That the information gathering be used as the foundation for truth telling, confession, apology, forgiveness, repentance and reconciliation; and be it further

Resolved, That each diocese, as requested by Resolution 2006-A123, name a Day of Repentance and on that day hold a Service of Repentance; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention require all dioceses to report their results to the 77th and 78th General Conventions.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), p. 711.



Resolution Number: 2009-A144

Title: Reaffirm a Resolution on Truth, Reconciliation and Restorative Justice

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 76th General Convention of The Episcopal Church agree to extend Resolution 2006-A127, which was passed at the 75th General Convention and that the Executive Council Committee on Anti-Racism report back to the 77th General Convention in 2012.

Resolution Number: 2006-A127

Title: Endorse Restorative Justice and Anti-Racism

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), pp. 140-141.



Resolution Number: 2006-A092

Title: Applaud Anti-Racism Training

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention applaud the training provided by the Anti-Racism Committee and Church Center staff; the training's encouragement of the church's membership to appreciate cultural differences and assistance in helping us understand the negative effects of racism, prejudice, and other types of oppression; and the committee's encouragement of the leadership of The Episcopal Church at all levels to become totally inclusive of diverse groups in their midst by the 76th General Convention.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 534.



Resolution Number: 2006-A127

Title: Endorse Restorative Justice and Anti-Racism

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church endorse the principles of restorative justice, an important tool in implementing a neutral articulation of the self-examination and amendment of life that is required to fulfill our baptismal covenant; and be it further

Resolved, That the 75th Convention, in support of and to enhance Resolution A123, call upon the Anti-Racism Committee of Executive Council to design a study and dialogue process and materials in order to engage the people of The Episcopal Church in storytelling about historical and present-day privilege and under-privilege as well as discernment towards restorative justice and the call to fully live into our baptismal covenant; and be it further

Resolved, That in the spirit of inclusion, dioceses also be invited to determine whether their call is to conduct truth and reconciliation processes in regard to other histories and legacies of racial discrimination and oppression that may be applicable in their geographic area, while not diminishing the strong call to focus on the history and legacy of slavery; and be it further

Resolved, That the dioceses will give a progress report to the Anti-Racism Committee. The Anti-Racism Committee will report their findings and recommendations to the Standing Commission on National Concerns and to Executive Council and to the 76th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church hold before itself the vision of a Church without racism; a Church for all races.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), pp. 665-666.



Resolution Number: 2006-C011

Title: Support Legislation for Reparations for Slavery

Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended

Final Text:

Resolved, That the 75th General Convention, affirming our commitments to become a transformed, anti-racist church and to work toward healing, reconciliation, and a restoration of wholeness to the family of God, urge the Church at every level to call upon Congress and the American people to support legislation initiating study of and dialogue about the history and legacy of slavery in the United States and of proposals for monetary and non-monetary reparations to the descendants of the victims of slavery.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 666.