

## General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

**Resolution No.:** 2024-A037  
**Title:** Accepting the Agreement "Sharing the Gifts of Communion" between The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria  
**Proposer:** Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations  
**Topic:** Anglican Communion, Ecumenism

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2022-A094     Affirm the Continuation of Ecumenical Dialogues

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

None

**Supplemental Documents:** (Linked)

*The Episcopal Church and Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria, [Sharing the Gifts of Communion](#), 2022.*

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2022, 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](#).*

# A037 - Accepting the agreement "Sharing the Gifts of Communion" between The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria

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**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations

**Has Budget Implications:** No

**Cost:**

**Amends C&C or Rules of Order:** Yes

**Requests New Interim Body:** No

**Changes Mandate Of Existing Ib:** No

**Directs Dfms Staff:** No

**Directs Dioceses:** No

**Directs Executive Council:** No

**HiA:** No House Assigned

**Legislative Committee Currently Assigned:** No Committee Assigned

**Completion Status:** Incomplete

**Latest House Action:** N/A

**Supporting Documents:** Yes

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## Resolution Text

*Resolved*, That the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church receive and commend *Sharing the Gifts of Communion (Augsburg Agreement)* as set forth following as the basis for a relationship of full communion to be established between The Episcopal Church and the Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Bayern (ELKB) (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria); and be it further

*Resolved*, That the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church accept the affirmation of *Sharing the Gifts of Communion (Augsburg Agreement)* that our churches have the basis for full communion with each other, to be inaugurated through a service of reconciliation between the two churches; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Presiding Bishop appoint four members to the Continuation Committee called for in *Sharing the Gifts of Communion (Augsburg Agreement)* to represent The Episcopal Church in the ongoing work of furthering our relationship; and be it further

*Resolved*, That Title 1, Canon 20, Section 1 be amended by adding a new subsection as follows:

**<Amended text as it would appear if adopted and concurred. Scroll below the line of asterisks (\*\*\*\*\*) to see the version showing all deleted and added text.>**

d. The Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Bayern (ELKB) (via the acceptance of *Sharing the Gifts of Communion [Augsburg Agreement]* of 2022)”

## **Explanation**

An earlier version of this resolution was referred from the 80th General Convention. It was listed as 2022-B001 and referred to Legislative Committee 19 - Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations. It has been entered as resolution 2024-A009. In their 2024 Blue Book report the Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations proposed an amended version of the resolution. This resolution, 2024-A037, is that amended version.

This document (attached below as a supplemental document) reviews the history and theology behind The Episcopal Church’s participation in interreligious engagement. It offers practical guidance for people engaged in that work. It builds on *Theological Statement on Interreligious Relations* (2009) adopted by the 76th General Convention.

Supplemental Document: “Holding Difference Together: Episcopal Theological and Practical Guidelines for Interreligious Relations”



**Resolution Number:** 2022-A094  
**Title:** Affirm the Continuation of Ecumenical Dialogues  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 80th General Convention joyfully affirms the continuation of the ecumenical dialogues in which The Episcopal Church is engaged: the Presbyterian Church (USA)-Episcopal Dialogue; the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue (ARCUSA), and the work toward full communion with the United Methodist Church (UMC); and be it further*  
*Resolved, That this Convention joyfully affirms the continuation of work of the dialogue with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria (Evangelisch-Lutherische Kirche in Bayern) and commends the document *Sharing the Gifts of Communion* to the church for consideration; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That this Convention joyfully affirms the continued coordinating committee work with our full communion partners, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Moravian Church (Northern Province and Southern Province); and be it further*  
*Resolved, That this Convention joyfully affirms our representation and participation in national ecumenical bodies, including the National Council of Churches (NCC), Churches Uniting in Christ (CUIC) and Christian Churches Together (CCT).*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Baltimore, 2022* (New York: General Convention, 2023), p. 456.