

General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2024 Archives' Research Report

Resolution No.: 2024-A039
Title: Practical Guidance for Episcopal-Jewish Relations
Proposer: Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations
Topic: Interfaith Relations, Ecumenism

Directly Related: (Attached)

1988-B044 Authorize a Central Mailing List of All Episcopal Households
1979-A044 Initiate a Study on Episcopal-Jewish Relations

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

2022-C030 Establish a Task Force to Address Anti-Semitic Language in Common Texts
2018-A037 Affirm Ongoing Interreligious Engagement
2015-A018 Encourage Church-wide Engagement in Interfaith Competency
1997-D055 Reaffirm Interfaith Dialogue and Acknowledge Prejudice Against Jews

Supplemental Documents: (Linked)

The Episcopal Church, [Christian-Jewish Relations: Theological and Practical Guidance for The Episcopal Church](#), 2021.

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](#).

A039 - Practical Guidance for Episcopal-Jewish Relations

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: No

Requests New Interim Body: No

Changes Mandate Of Existing Ib: No

Directs Dfms Staff: No

Directs Dioceses: Yes

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

Resolution Text

Resolved, That the 81st General Convention of The Episcopal Church adopt “Christian-Jewish Relations: Theological and Practical Guidance for The Episcopal Church” as a resource for use by dioceses, parishes, and other Episcopal communities as they develop and maintain healthy and respectful relationships through conversation, collaboration, or other joint service or ministry initiatives with their Jewish neighbors.

Explanation

This document (attached below as a supplemental document) updates a previous set of guidelines for Christian-Jewish relations, adopted by General Convention in 1988. It reviews the history and theology behind The Episcopal Church’s participation in Christian-Jewish relations and offers practical guidance for people engaged in that work.



Resolution Number: 1988-B004
Title: Adopt a Document on Christian-Jewish Relations
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the document entitled "**Guidelines for Christian-Jewish Relations for use in the Episcopal Church**", as prepared by the Presiding Bishop's Committee on Christian-Jewish Relations and published as Appendix A to their Report in the *Blue Book*, pp. 454-459, is hereby adopted by this 69th General Convention as a policy intended to assist the members of this Church in facilitating understanding and cooperation between Christians and Jews.

The "**Guidelines**" are to be amended as follows:

Blue Book, p. 456, II.5., line 4: delete the word "mistakenly".

Blue Book, p. 458, IV.1., line 4: add the words "among all peoples" after the words "word and deed".

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Detroit, 1988* (New York: General Convention, 1989), p. 701.



Resolution Number: 1979-A044
Title: Initiate a Study on Episcopal-Jewish Relations
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred As Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That this 66th General Convention of the Episcopal Church call anew upon the leadership of the Episcopal Church, both clergy and lay, to deepen their commitment to Episcopal-Jewish dialogue and to interfaith cooperation in local communities; and, wherever appropriate, to seek exposure to ancient and contemporary Jewish scholarship so as to better comprehend the Scriptures on which, and the religious environment in which, our Lord Jesus Christ was nourished; and to appreciate more fully the religious worship and experience of our neighbors in the Jewish community; and be it further

Resolved, That, to the end of encouraging and furthering mutual understanding between Episcopalians and Jews by way of biblical and theological enquiry and through friendly discussion, the Presiding Bishop's Advisory Committee on Episcopal-Jewish Relations initiate a study on the methodology for and substantive issues of Episcopal-Jewish dialogue in the next triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That the report of the said Presiding Bishop's Advisory Committee on Episcopal-Jewish Relations, together with recommendations for implementation of the dialogue, be made to the 67th General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 1979* (New York: General Convention, 1980), p. C-48.