

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2018
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-A032
TITLE: Congregational Redevelopment
PROPOSER: Executive Council
TOPIC: Congregations

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-D009 Create a Congregational Revitalization Network
2012-A073 Establish Diocesan Mission Enterprise Zones

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

2015-A012 Continue Diocesan Mission Enterprise Zones
2015-A086 Create a Network of Latino/Hispanic Partners for Congregational Development
2015-D005 Create a Church-wide Network for Planting Churches
2015-D072 Continue the Congregational Renewal Initiative
2003-A076 Develop Transformation Resources
2000-B029 Recognize the Ministry of Communication of the Episcopal Church
1979-D017 Ask Dioceses to Combine Resources That Assist Congregational Growth

Supplemental Documents: (Linked)

(Blue Book) Report to General Convention, [Executive Council](#), see pages 121-122.

In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1976 through 2015, 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 at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.

A032 Congregational Redevelopment

Proposer	Executive Council
Topic	Congregations
Endorsed by	
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
HiA / Leg. Cttee	HB / 10 - Congregational and Diocesan Vitality
Current Status	Resolution Filed
Version	Original (as filed)
Review Status	Not yet reviewed

RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of _____ concurring, That the 79th General Convention requests that the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies in consultation with the Church Center staff create a church-wide Community of Practice that works with up to one hundred (100) congregations and their bishops to help them redevelop to better engage the cultural realities of their communities for the sake of launching new ministries and multi-cultural missional initiatives; *and be it further*
- 2 *Resolved*, That the Communications Office be directed to make a priority of reporting on the stories of redeveloped congregations on an ongoing basis through news media, video, and other means and through developing a website that provides detailed information about the redevelopment efforts happening throughout the church; *and be it further*
- 3 *Resolved*, That the cost of this initiative will be equally shared by the church-wide budget, participating dioceses and redeveloping congregations; *and be it further*
- 4 *Resolved*, That the presiding officers appoint a task force to coordinate this initiative in collaboration with Church Center staff. That task force may be combined with a task force on Church Planting and Missional Initiatives at the discretion of the presiding officers; *and be it further*
- 5 *Resolved*, That the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$725,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

EXPLANATION

No explanation.



Resolution Number: 2015-D009
Title: Create a Congregational Revitalization Network
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention shall promote the revitalization of existing congregations within The Episcopal Church through the creation of a congregational revitalization network; and be it further

Resolved, That a churchwide staff position be created to facilitate the creation of this network, coordinate training opportunities for congregational leaders, and encourage collaboration between existing revitalization ministries; and be it further

Resolved, That regional coaches with practical revitalization experience be identified and trained in congregational revitalization, who shall be available to congregations in varying parts of the church to consult with them on revitalization efforts; and be it further

Resolved, That the staff leader and the coaches shall provide training opportunities for congregational clergy and lay leaders in order to help them re-vision their purpose, use of space, outreach to their communities, evangelism efforts, and new ways of proclaiming the gospel of Christ; and be it further

Resolved, That a Congregation Revitalization Venture Fund be created to fund grants to existing congregations, with special attention given to congregations reaching out to populations that are underrepresented in The Episcopal Church; and be it further

Resolved, That Congregation Revitalization Venture Fund grants shall be administered by a grants committee established for that purpose by Executive Council in consultation with the staff leader; and be it further

Resolved, That the Development Office be directed to make raising \$300,000 for the Congregation Revitalization Venture Fund one of its priorities in the 2016-18 triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance be requested to consider an allocation of \$700,000 for the 2016-18 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. 315-316.



Resolution Number: 2012-A073
Title: Establish Diocesan Mission Enterprise Zones
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention establish the Mission Enterprise Fund, to be administered by a grants committee for that purpose established by the Executive Council, with \$1 million for the 2013–2015 triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That Diocesan Standing Committees and Bishops partner to create "Mission Enterprise Zones," defined as a geographic area, as a group of congregations or as an entire diocese committed to mission and evangelism that engages under-represented groups, including youth and young adults, people of color, poor and working-class people, people with a high-school diploma or less, and/or people with little or no church background or involvement; and be it further

Resolved, That a Diocese may apply for a matching grant of up to \$20,000 from the Mission Enterprise Fund, to facilitate the development of the Mission Enterprise Zone; and be it further

Resolved, That congregational leaders in Mission Enterprise Zones participate in trainings around anti-racism, cross-cultural community development, and ministry development and evangelism, in order to gain the skills to effectively build relationships with groups currently under-represented in The Episcopal Church but growing throughout our domestic mission field; and be it further

Resolved, That each Mission Enterprise Zone feature a strategic plan to start or redevelop a congregation that is intentionally multi-cultural, incorporating the presence and leadership of under-represented generations, socio-economic groups, races, ethnicities and/or languages; and be it further

Resolved, That for the period between the 77th and 78th General Conventions, these enterprise zones be created and be granted greater freedom as authorized by the Bishop in consultation with diocesan leadership regarding the designation of "congregation" status, traditional formation for and use of ordained leadership, and the use of authorized texts for principle worship gatherings; and be it further

Resolved, That diocesan leaders report to the Standing Commission on the Mission and Evangelism of The Episcopal Church the results of their efforts, including a description of the Mission Enterprise Zone and the process for creating the zone, the number and nature of new faith communities created, the number and demographic profiles of people associated with these communities, and the ministries established within the zone; and be it further

Resolved, That the Standing Commission on the Mission and Evangelism of The Episcopal Church compile and reflect on these accounts and use them to fulfill the request of the Executive Council to help the Church "create a canonical process to incorporate new faith community models into our existing structures" by the 78th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$1,000,000 to implement 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), pp. 113-114.