

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-A035  
**TITLE:** Commend "The Church Towards A Common Vision"  
**PROPOSER:** Executive Council  
**TOPIC:** Ecumenism

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

1991-A039 Endorse an Ecumenical Agenda for the Years Ahead  
1979-A035 Declare a Statement on Christian Unity

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

2012-A037 Commend Guidelines for Ecumenical Shared Ministries  
1985-A061 Recognize the Value of the WCC Statement on Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry  
1979-B055 Commend WCC Actions on Accountability and Communication  
1976-A034 Urge the Church to Act and Plan Ecumenically

**Supplemental Documents:** (Linked)

*The Church: Towards a Common Vision*, [World Council of Churches](#), 2018

*(Blue Book) Report to General Convention*, [Executive Council](#), see page 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.*

# A035 Commend "The Church Towards A Common Vision"

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<b>Proposer</b>	Executive Council
<b>Topic</b>	Ecumenism
<b>Endorsed by</b>	
<b>Sponsored by</b>	
<b>Page numbers</b>	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
<b>HiA / Leg. Cttee</b>	HB / 19 - Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations
<b>Current Status</b>	Resolution Filed
<b>Version</b>	Original (as filed)
<b>Review Status</b>	Not yet reviewed

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## RESOLUTION TEXT

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 79th General Convention commend to every Episcopalian for study the 2013 convergence statement published by the World Council of Churches, *The Church: Towards a Common Vision* (TCTCV).

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## EXPLANATION

No explanation.



**Resolution Number:** 1991-A039  
**Title:** Endorse an Ecumenical Agenda for the Years Ahead  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That this 70th General Convention endorse the following ecumenical agenda for the Episcopal Church in the years ahead:*

**That the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations sponsor a focused consultation on ecclesiology that will bring together theologians, representatives of other dialogue partners, members of the Faith and Order units of the World Council of Churches and the National Council of the Churches of Christ, and the Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical Officers.**

**That the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations request an explicit examination of ecclesiology in each of our dialogues and encourage exchange of information and experience among them.**

**That the Standing Commission on Ecumenical Relations invite the cooperation of the Episcopal Diocesan Ecumenical Officers in challenging and assisting the Church at diocesan and parish levels to test issues of ecclesiology against actual experience and in order that the Church's local life may more intentionally reflect her ecclesiology and that her ecclesiology may be sharpened by her actual experience.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Phoenix, 1991* (New York: General Convention, 1992), p. 798.



**Resolution Number:** 1979-A035  
**Title:** Declare a Statement on Christian Unity  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That this 66th General Convention declares:*

**The visible unity we seek will be one eucharistic fellowship. As an expression of and a means toward this goal, the uniting Church will recognize itself as a communion of Communion, based upon acknowledgment of catholicity and apostolicity. In this organic relationship all will recognize each other's members and ministries. All will share the bread and the cup of the Lord. All will acknowledge each other as belonging to the Body of Christ at all places and at all times. All will proclaim the Gospel to the world with one mind and purpose. All will serve the needs of humankind with mutual trust and dedication. And for these ends all will plan and decide together in assemblies constituted by authorized representatives whenever and wherever there is need. We do not yet see the shape of that collegiality, conciliarity, authority and primacy which need to be present and active in the Diocese with its Parishes as well as nationally, regionally, universally; but we recognize that some ecclesial structure will be necessary to bring about the expressions of our unity in the Body of Christ described above. We do not yet know how the particular traditions of each of the Communion will be maintained and developed for the enrichment of the whole Church. We do not see how the Church will be shaped by the particular histories and cultures within which she is called to fulfill her mission. All Christians are challenged to express more fully among themselves the biblical call to mutual responsibility and interdependence. We believe ways can now be found to express this call to a communion of the Churches in the Body of Christ. As the Churches become partners in mission they will move from present interrelatedness to interdependence.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Denver, 1979* (New York: General Convention, 1980), p. C-47.