

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-A195  
**TITLE:** Establishing a Staff Person for Liturgy and Music on the Staff of the Presiding Bishop  
**PROPOSER:** 12 - Prayer Book, Liturgy and Music  
**TOPIC:** Budget

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

1988-D129      Establish a Position for a Program Coordinator for Liturgy and Music

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

None

*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.*

# A195 Establishing a Staff Person for Liturgy and Music on the Staff of the Presiding Bishop

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| <b>Proposer</b>         | 12 - Prayer Book, Liturgy and Music              |
| <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 / 12 - Prayer Book, Liturgy and Music         |
| <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 establish a position for Liturgy and Music who will serve on the staff of the Presiding Bishop, to make accessible digital resources for all worshipping communities in The Episcopal Church; and be it further
- 2 *Resolved*, That the staff person support the work assigned to the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music in the creation, translation, and dissemination of digital versions of liturgies approved or made available by the General Convention. These resources would include, but not be limited to *The Book of Common Prayer*, *The Book of Occasional Services*, *Lesser Feasts and Fasts*, the *Enriching our Worship*, and musical resources. This staff person will be a resource to the whole Church for its liturgical life, including diocesan liturgy & music commissions and other groups engaged in enriching the Church’s worship; and be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That the General Convention request that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance consider a budget allocation of \$325,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

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## EXPLANATION

Worship is the heart of the Church’s life, but for a number of years, The Episcopal Church has had not had a staff position dedicated to this essential work. Such a position is needed now more than ever, for we worship in an “in-between” age, with authorized material created for printed publication when much of the church and the world desire digital forms for use in worship, as the local worshipping community finds appropriate.

Well-curated worship resources are available on-line in many other branches of the Christian Church, the Church of England’s Common Worship (<https://www.churchofengland.org/prayer-and-worship/worship-texts-and-resources/common-worship>) being just one well known example. The Episcopal Church has many rich resources for worship, but few are available in an easily usable form. Having a staff person dedicated to the provision of liturgical resources in such forms will strengthen our common life of prayer and praise.



**Resolution Number:** 1988-D129  
**Title:** Establish a Position for a Program Coordinator for Liturgy and Music  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That a position of Program Coordinator for Liturgy and Music at the Episcopal Church Center be established beginning in 1989, whose primary tasks shall be:*

*to act as staff person for the Standing Liturgical Commission and the Standing Commission on Church Music, and the Prayer Book and Liturgy Committees, and the Committees on Church Music of the House of Bishops and House of Deputies;*  
*to act as liaison between the National Church and Diocesan Liturgy and Music Commissions, the Association of Anglican Musicians, Associated Parishes, the Hymn Society of America, the Consultation on Common Texts, and other inter-Anglican or ecumenical organizations on liturgical and musical concerns;*  
*in cooperation with the Standing Liturgical Commission and Standing Commission on Church Music to act, at the request of the Presiding Bishop, as a consultant on worship at General Convention and services of the National Church;*  
*to receive materials pertaining to the ongoing work of the SLC and SCCM related to future revisions of the Book of Common Prayer and the Hymnal;*  
*to serve as a resource to the Church on liturgical and musical matters;*  
*upon request, to act as a spokesperson for the SLC and SCCM at diocesan and regional meetings;*

and be it further

*Resolved, That the Coordinator shall be chosen in consultation with the chairs of the Standing Liturgical Commission and the Standing Commission on Church Music, and the Chairperson of the Prayer Book and Liturgy Committees of the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the Presiding Bishop and the Executive Council are requested to reorganize the Office of Education for Mission and Ministry so as to provide for this position.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Detroit, 1988* (New York: General Convention, 1989), p. 697.