

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-A196  
**TITLE:** Fund a Full-time Evangelism Staff Officer  
**PROPOSER:** 11 - Evangelism and Church Planting  
**TOPIC:** Budget

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2015-A087      On the Topic of Creating a Task Force on Evangelism (Rejected)  
2012-D023      Affirm Episcopalians as Evangelists to Grow the Church

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

2006-A037      Reaffirm Commitment to Congregational Health and Evangelism  
1997-B029      Acknowledge Failure and Reclaim the Mission of Evangelism  
1997-D050      Prepare Resources for Evangelical Preaching Missions in Each Diocese  
1991-A059      Reaffirm Definition of and Commitment to Evangelism

**Supplemental Documents:** (Linked)

(*Blue Book*) Report to General Convention, [Executive Council](#), see page 121.

*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.*

# A196 Fund a Full-time Evangelism Staff Officer

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<b>Proposer</b>	11 - Evangelism and Church Planting
<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>	HD / 11 - Evangelism and Church Planting
<b>Current Status</b>	On House of Deputies Calendar
<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 affirm the initiative of the Presiding Bishop and Executive Council in the creation of and funding for a full-time Evangelism Officer to serve on the Presiding Bishop's staff; and be it further
- 2 *Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention encourage Program, Budget, and Finance to maintain the sum of \$380,000, as *currently allocated in the draft budget proposed by the Executive Council for this position.*

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## EXPLANATION

In the previous triennium, the Presiding Bishop's staff contracted with three (3) consultant evangelists, on a five to ten (5-10) hour a week basis, to assist this work. This resolution affirms the creation of a new position already allocated within the proposed budget to replace and extend the work of the three (3) consultants. The committee finds this position vital in carrying out the loving, liberating, and life-giving work of our Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement.



**Resolution Number:** 2015-A087  
**Title:** On the Topic of Creating a Task Force on Evangelism  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Rejected  
**Text of Resolution:**

*Resolved*, the House of Bishops concurring, That the 78th General Convention direct the Presiding Bishop and the President of the House of Deputies to create a Task Force on Evangelism to design and develop an Evangelism Resource to support dioceses, local congregations, Mission Enterprise Zone initiatives, and wider church needs as they participate in evangelism; and be it further

*Resolved*, That evangelism resources that have already been developed be collected by the Task Force for Evangelism for possible inclusion in the resource; and be it further

*Resolved*, That dioceses be encouraged to utilize the Evangelism Resource to identify, train, equip, and license lay evangelists in accordance with Canon III.4.9; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Task Force for Evangelism develop a survey instrument to evaluate each diocese's efforts and results annually during the triennium; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$100,000 for the implementation of this resolution.



**Resolution Number:** 2012-D023  
**Title:** Affirm Episcopalians as Evangelists to Grow the Church  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 77th General Convention see the decline in membership as a call to action; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this General Convention affirm that through the baptismal covenant, the five marks of mission, and membership in the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society, all Episcopalians are called to be evangelists who help grow the church and the Kingdom of God; and be it further*

*Resolved, That this General Convention give thanks for the work of the Office of Congregational Vitality and the Office of Emergent Church and Church Planting and increase their budget allocations with the goal of growing membership.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), p. 325.