

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

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2018-C062  
**TITLE:** On the Gendered Language of God  
**PROPOSER:** Washington  
**TOPIC:** Inclusive Language

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**Directly Related:** (Attached)

2015-A169 Prepare a Plan for Revising the 1979 Book of Common Prayer  
2003-A026 Direct Executive Council to Appoint a Task Force on Baptismal Parity  
1985-A095 Prepare Inclusive Language Texts for the Regular Services of the Church

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

1988-A073 Direct Episcopal Church Staff to Use Inclusive Language in All Communications

*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.*

# C062 On the Gendered Language of God

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<b>Proposer</b>	Diocese of Washington
<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 / 13 - Committee to Receive the Report of Resolution A169
<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 direct the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, if the revision of the Book of Common prayer is authorized, to utilize expansive language for God from the rich sources of feminine, masculine, and non-binary imagery for God found in Scripture and tradition and, when possible, to avoid the use of gendered pronouns for God.

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## EXPLANATION

No explanation.



**Resolution Number:** 2015-A169  
**Title:** Prepare a Plan for Revising the 1979 Book of Common Prayer  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 78th General Convention direct the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music (SCLM) to prepare a plan for the comprehensive revision of the current Book of Common Prayer and present that plan to the 79th General Convention; and be it further*

*Resolved, That such a plan for revision utilize the riches of our Church's liturgical, cultural, racial, generational, linguistic, gender and ethnic diversity in order to share common worship; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the plan for revision take into consideration the use of current technologies which provide access to a broad range of liturgical resources; 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 \$30,000 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. 886-887.



**Resolution Number:** 2003-A026  
**Title:** Direct Executive Council to Appoint a Task Force on Baptismal Parity  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted and Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention commit itself to using language and visual images that reflect the diversity of age, sex, ethnicity, disability, and race among the baptized membership of The Episcopal Church; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention direct the Executive Council to appoint a task force to (1) explore ways to include all who are created in God's image in our use of biblical and theological language and our use of visual images; (2) create guidelines that assure inclusion of persons of both sexes, and all ages, ethnicities and races; and (3) encourage incorporation of these guidelines in the everyday worship, music, education, preaching, written materials, and visual art used at the congregational, diocesan, and national levels of The Episcopal Church; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the task force include theologians, members of the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music, the Committee on the Status of Women, the House of Bishops Theology Committee, representatives of the ethnic desks, and the Episcopal News Service; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$35,500 (\$34,000 for two meetings of the Task Force and \$1,500 for communication of these guidelines) for implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 182.



**Resolution Number:** 1985-A095  
**Title:** Prepare Inclusive Language Texts for the Regular Services of the Church  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Substituted and Amended  
**Final Text:**

***Resolved, That the Standing Liturgical Commission be directed to prepare inclusive language texts for the regular services of the Church, i.e., Morning and Evening Prayer and the Holy Eucharist, to be proposed for trial use at the next meeting of the General Convention in accordance with Article X of the Constitution and Canon II.3.6(a).***

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 1985* (New York: General Convention, 1986), p. 605.