

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

RESOLUTION NO.: 2018-D062
TITLE: Companionship with Sudanese Christians
PROPOSER: The Rev. Lauren Stanley
TOPIC: World Mission

Directly Related: (Attached)

2015-B018 Commend Efforts for Peace in Sudan and South Sudan
2012-B007 Commit to Sustaining Sudanese Church in the Episcopal Church
2009-D007 Urge Dioceses to Covenant With the Church of Sudan

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

2012-C075 Commit to Welcoming the Sudanese
2000-A130 Affirm Solidarity with and Support for Persecuted Christians in Sudan

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.

D062 Companionship with Sudanese Christians

Proposer	The Rev. Lauren Stanley
Endorsed by	Alexander, Ms. Martha Bedell; O'Neal, Ms. Yvonne
Sponsored by	
Page numbers	Blue Book: p. N/A; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A
HiA / Leg. Cttee	HB / 05 - World Mission
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 celebrate the witness and vigor that new Americans seeking refuge from war and famine in Sudan and South Sudan have brought to The Episcopal Church since 1983; and be it further
- 2 *Resolved*, That this Convention encourage Archbishop Ezekiel Kondo of the Episcopal Church of Sudan and Archbishop Justin Badi Arama of the Episcopal Church South Sudan in their efforts to reconcile all groups in the Sudans with God and each other; and be it further
- 3 *Resolved*, That this Convention encourage the continuation of existing and the exploration of new mission companionships between dioceses and parishes of The Episcopal Church (and other friends of the Sudans) with the dioceses and other institutions of the Episcopal Church of Sudan and the Episcopal Church of South Sudan; and be it further
- 4 *Resolved*, That this Convention commend the ongoing labor of Sudanese diaspora communities across the United States and Canada to unify their voices and overcome the destroyers of peace in their homelands.

EXPLANATION

Following 22 years of war between the Sudan People's Liberation Movement and the Government of Sudan, a comprehensive peace agreement supported by the United States and other guarantor states led to the independence of South Sudan on July 9, 2011. This separated the geographically largest and potentially prosperous Nile Valley state of Sudan into two sovereign states: Sudan and South Sudan.

Since the outbreak of war between rival South Sudan leaders in 2013 and the breakdown of social order and economic activity, the South Sudan Council of Churches, in which South Sudanese Anglicans are active, has offered constructive mediation between deadlocked factions and mutually fearful ethnic groups. Episcopal Relief and Development and Anglican Relief and Development in the United States continue to supply economic aid and training through provincial and diocesan channels.

The Anglican presence in northern and southern Sudan was separated into two autonomous provinces in 2017, the two having previously been a single province since 1976. Anglicans in the

Episcopal Church of Sudan are estimated at 1 million, and those in the Episcopal Church of South Sudan are estimated at 3.5 million.

The humanitarian crisis in South Sudan and the strong membership growth and increase in dioceses in the Episcopal Church of South Sudan from 25 to 37 during the 10-year ministry of former Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul make renewal of missional links with local dioceses, theological schools, and grassroots development projects urgent.



Resolution Number: 2015-B018
Title: Commend Efforts for Peace in Sudan and South Sudan
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church (TEC), mindful of resolutions D-007 from 2009 and A-019 from 2012; Joyfully celebrate the vitality and growth of the Episcopal Church in South Sudan and Sudan and give thanks for the Church's efforts to bring about justice and peace in South Sudan and Sudan; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention heartily commend the Episcopal Church of Sudan and South Sudan (ECSSS) for its steadfast efforts to end the civil war which broke out in South Sudan in December 2013, and to help resolve older and continuing conflicts in the border areas of Abyei, and in Darfur, Blue Nile and the Nuba Mountains in Sudan; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention strongly urge TEC dioceses and parishes to consider prayer partnerships and joint work with bishops, dioceses, and church organizations in ECSSS to support them to reduce and resolve the current conflicts, help refugees, hold war criminals accountable, and improve people's living conditions; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention request the Presiding Bishop, in cooperation with other denominations and other provinces of the Anglican Communion to set aside several weeks in 2016 for prayer for peace in South Sudan and Sudan; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church direct the offices and agencies of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society to utilize all measures at their disposal to advocate for the protection of refugees, conflict resolution and sustainable development in South Sudan and Sudan with appropriate governmental and international agencies and offices.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Salt Lake City, 2015* (New York: General Convention, 2015), p. 788.



Resolution Number: 2012-B007
Title: Commit to Sustaining Sudanese Church in the Episcopal Church
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred as Amended
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church recognize the Sudanese Communities gathering in Episcopal churches for Christian worship, learning, and advancement; and that the Church commits herself to welcome and sustain these communities and their individual members in building up the full body of Christ through ministries at the parish, diocesan, and national levels; and that mission churches be planted, where appropriate, to be sustained in part by a national committee of senior Sudanese clergy; 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.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), pp. 180-181.



Resolution Number: 2009-D007
Title: Urge Dioceses to Covenant With the Church of Sudan
Legislative Action Taken: Concurred
Final Text:

Resolved, That the 76th General Convention adopt the following objectives to guide our church's advocacy for peace in Sudan: (a) support for the full and timely implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of 2005, settling the prior civil war between the north and south, (b) support for increased private investment for economic development in southern Sudan, as now permitted by U.S. law, (c) continued and increased U.S. government development assistance in southern Sudan and other areas affected by war in Sudan, and (d) an early end to hostilities in Darfur and elsewhere in Sudan, and assuring full access by humanitarian organizations to assist refugees; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention urge each diocese in The Episcopal Church (TEC) to consider, after careful consultation, entry into a Companion Diocese Relationship or other covenant-based link relationship with a diocese in The Episcopal Church of Sudan (ECS) or with an ECS-approved Bible translation project, as a means (a) to strengthen the proclamation of the Gospel in both the TEC and ECS, and (b) to further the cause of peace in Sudan. Each TEC diocese is requested to report the results of such consideration by July 1, 2010 to the Executive Council for posting on appropriate TEC websites after review by Executive Council; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request our Presiding Bishop to designate, after consultation with other interested denominations, a period of several weeks in 2010 as a Season of Prayer for peace in Sudan, where our churches are urged to include prayer for peace in Sudan in each public liturgy, and that such Season of Prayer culminate in a National Day of Prayer for peace in Sudan, including the celebration of relationships by TEC dioceses and churches with the ECS.

Citation: General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 2009* (New York: General Convention, 2009), p. 293.