

**Resolutions Adopted by
The 165th Convention of the Diocese of California
October 18, 2014**

I. GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

PROPOSITION 47: SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS AND SCHOOLS ACT OF 2014

Resolved, That the 165th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of California endorses Proposition 47: The Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act of 2014, a California voter initiative on the ballot in November, and urges individuals and congregations to support its passage; and

Resolved, That the 165th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of California calls on congregations to engage in prayerful study and action to address the root causes of the mass incarceration of men of color in California and the nation.

**LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR
AN EPISCOPAL STATE POLICY NETWORK IN CALIFORNIA**

Resolved, That the 165th Convention of the Diocese of California directs the Executive Council of the diocese to appoint a task force to investigate pathways for setting up a joint state policy network with the other five Episcopal dioceses located within the State of California, for the purpose of advocating on state public policy issues that our dioceses and The Episcopal Church have addressed in diocesan and General Conventions;

Resolved, That this task force be directed to consult with the Office of Government Affairs of the Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Public Policy Network, with other active inter-diocesan groups that work on state policy, including those in New York State and North Carolina; and with the diocesan bishops and executive governing bodies of the other five dioceses located within the State of California; and

Resolved, That this Convention authorizes the Executive Council to enable the Diocese of California to participate in such a network based on the report of the task force on the best pathways forward and the parameters under which it would operate, and the willingness and ability of other dioceses to participate.

LITURGICAL MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Resolved, That the 165th Convention of the Diocese of California submits the following resolution to the 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church:

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church authorize the use of “The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage,” “The Blessing of a Civil Marriage,” and “An Order for Marriage” from The Book of Common Prayer 1979, and “The Witnessing and Blessing of a Lifelong Covenant” from Liturgical Resources I, for all marriages legal in the civil jurisdiction in which the liturgy takes place. In civil jurisdictions with same-sex marriage, the language “man and woman” and “husband

and wife” and other such gender-specific language shall be equally applicable to two people of the same sex, and may thus be modified whenever necessary for the purposes of the Canon “Of the Solemnization of Holy Matrimony” (Canon I.18) and “The Celebration and Blessing of a Marriage,” “The Blessing of a Civil Marriage” and “An Order for Marriage” in the Book of Common Prayer 1979; and be it further

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church amend Canon 1.18: Of the Solemnization of Holy Matrimony, to read as follows:

Sec. 1. Every Member of the Clergy of this Church shall conform ~~to the laws of the State governing the creation of the civil status of marriage, and also~~ to the laws of this Church governing the solemnization of Holy Matrimony, *and if the solemnization of Holy Matrimony is to have legal effect as a civil marriage, to the laws of the State governing the creation of the civil status of marriage.*

Sec. 2. Before solemnizing ~~a marriage~~ *Holy Matrimony* the Member of the Clergy shall have ascertained:

- (a) That both parties have the right to contract a marriage according to the laws of the State, *if the marriage is to have legal effect.*
- (b) That both parties understand that Holy Matrimony is a physical and spiritual union of ~~a man and a woman~~ *two people*, entered into within the community of faith, by mutual consent of heart, mind, and will, and with intent that it be lifelong.
- (c) That both parties freely and knowingly consent to such marriage, without fraud, coercion, mistake as to identity of a partner, or mental reservation.
- (d) That at least one of the parties has received Holy Baptism.
- (e) That both parties have been instructed as to the nature, meaning, and purpose of Holy Matrimony by the Member of the Clergy, or that they have both received such instruction from persons known by the Member of the Clergy to be competent and responsible.

Sec. 3. No Member of the Clergy of this Church shall solemnize any marriage unless the following procedures are complied with:

- (a) The intention of the parties to contract marriage shall have been signified to the Member of the Clergy at least thirty days before the service of solemnization; Provided, that for weighty cause, this requirement may be dispensed with if one of the parties is a member of the Congregation of the Member of the Clergy, or can furnish satisfactory evidence of responsibility.

In case the thirty days' notice is waived, the Member of the Clergy shall report such action in writing to the Bishop immediately.

- (b) There shall be present at least two witnesses to the solemnization of marriage.
- (c) The Member of the Clergy shall record in the proper register the date and place of the marriage, the names of the parties and their parents, the age of the parties, their residences, and their Church status; the witnesses and the Member of the Clergy shall sign the record.

(d) The Member of the Clergy shall have required that the parties sign the following declaration:

~~(e)~~ "We, A.B. and C.D., desiring to receive the blessing of Holy Matrimony in the Church, do solemnly declare that we hold marriage to be a lifelong union of ~~husband and wife~~ *two people* as it is set forth in the Book of Common Prayer.

~~(f)~~ "We believe that the union of ~~husband and wife~~ *two people*, in heart, body, and mind, is intended by God for their mutual joy; for the help and comfort given one another in prosperity and adversity; and, when it is God's will, for the procreation of children and their nurture in the knowledge and love of the Lord.

~~(g)~~ "And we do engage ourselves, so far as in us lies, to make our utmost effort to establish this relationship and to seek God's help thereto."

Sec. 4. It shall be within the discretion of any Member of the Clergy of this Church to decline to solemnize any marriage.

SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING IN THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF CALIFORNIA

Resolved, That the 165th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of California instructs Executive Council to work actively towards full socially responsible investing by continuing to implement the principles of Avoidance, Affirmative Investment, and Advocacy set forth in the resolution Adopted by the 164th Convention titled "Sustainable and Responsible Investing" and to progressively implement investment policies for diocesan investments;

Resolved, That Convention asks the Bishop to appoint a Social Responsibility Task Force to explore investment policies that would be consistent with the values of the people of the Diocese of California (informed by a process involving, but not limited to, diocesan planned roundtable discussions over the course of 2015) and to make policy recommendations to the Investment Committee, which shall provide an interim report to Executive Council in the first quarter of 2016 regarding its progress in formulating a socially responsible investment policy; and that Executive Council will share the content of this report and the decisions they have made in response to it with the members of the diocese before the 167th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of California in 2016; and

Resolved, That Executive Council is further instructed to encourage all congregations of the Diocese of California to make a similar commitment to explore and implement policies concerning socially responsible funds.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Resolved, That the 165th Convention of the Diocese of California submits the following resolution to the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church:

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church welcome the release of the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed carbon rule for existing power plants, Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units, 79 Fed.Reg. 34829 (proposed June 18,

2014) (to be codified at 40 C.F.R. Pt. 60; power plants are the single largest source of carbon dioxide pollution in the United States and major contributors to climate change; these emissions not only threaten the environmental stability of our planet, but also the health of young children and their families, disproportionately affecting the poorest among us and all of God's good Creation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church recommit to Oppose Environmental Racism; coal, gas, oil, and uranium extraction and subsequent transportation threaten the health, sanctity of communities, and the livelihood of future generations; we seek to eliminate the practice of locating such industries disproportionately near neighborhoods inhabited by people of color and low income communities; and be it further

Resolved, That there continue to be diverse opinions and voices concerning whether the Church should divest its holdings in fossil fuel extraction companies as well as those that use substantial amounts of such fuels; it is important that we as a Church have extensive conversations on this critical issue; we ask that the Committee on Corporate Social Responsibility of the Executive Council and the Church Pension Fund, in consultation with experts in the fields of economics and investing, ethics, renewable energy development, jointly assess whether the benefit of a divestment strategy would be in compliance with our values and issue a report thereon by the Summer of 2016 and we call on upon the Executive Council to facilitate church-wide dialogue on this subject following the issuance of this report and communicate the results of the dialogue to the 79th General Convention.

PROMOTING JUSTICE AND PEACE IN ISRAEL/PALESTINE

Resolved, That the 165th Convention of the Diocese of California expresses its concern over the renewed violence by both sides in Israel/Palestine and, in particular, the loss of so many civilian lives in Gaza, and encourages the two parties to engage in talks to end Israel's continued occupation of the West Bank and East Jerusalem, its blockade of Gaza, and the continued expansion of Israeli settlements;

Resolved, That the Convention expresses its profound love and concern for all the people of the Holy Land, both Israelis and Palestinians, and rejects attempts to equate honest and legitimate criticism of unwise policies of the Government of Israel with anti-Semitism; and

Resolved, That the Convention submits the following resolution to the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church:

Resolved, The House of _____ concurring, That the 78th General Convention encourage the Church to divest from any investments it might have in Caterpillar, G4S, Hewlett-Packard, and Motorola Solutions, whose products and/or actions support the infrastructure of the occupation; and be it further

Resolved, That the 78th General Convention encourage Episcopalians to boycott products, such as Soda Stream, that are manufactured in Israeli settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

STATEMENT ON GENERAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Resolved, That the 165th Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of California issues the following statement:

The Diocese of California deplors the actions of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church in firing 8 faculty members protesting the dean and president's allegedly inappropriate behavior. These actions are directly in opposition to the policies and procedures of the Episcopal Church. The board's interpretation of the faculty's letter of protest as a "resignation" cut off the possibilities of real and necessary conversation, and is unacceptable. As members of the Episcopal Church, we call for the faculty members to be reinstated with their full academic rights and privileges, and a robust, independent and transparent investigation carried out. Please know that our prayers have been and continue to be with the whole community of General Seminary.

II. FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS

2015 ASSESSMENT FORMULA

Resolved, That the 2015 assessment formula shall be:

1. 5% assessment on the first \$68,733 of a parish or mission's operating income for 2013 as defined on Line A of the 2013 parochial report,
2. 17% assessment on all such income above \$68,733, provided that
3. No parish or mission shall have an increase over 2014's initial assessment (before appeals) of more than 50% or \$17,500, whichever is less.

2015 SALARY RESOLUTION

Resolved, That effective January 1, 2015, the minimum annual compensation for clergy employed full time by the Diocese of California and by any parish or mission thereof shall be increased by 3.0% as reflected in the 2015 Mandatory Minimum Salary Schedule.

Further Resolved, That Years of Experience be defined by Credited Service with The Church Pension Fund.

2015 Mandatory Minimum Salaries Including Self Employment Tax

Congregation Classification	Experience 0-4 Years	Experience 5-9 Years	Experience 10+ Years
A	68,733	72,551	76,369
B	71,024	75,225	79,423
C	73,341	77,896	82,478
D	76,369	82,478	88,589
E	84,007	91,643	99,357

Resolved,

1. That any deviation below the Mandatory Minimum Compensation will be permitted by the Bishop for serious cause, with the Bishop using the Personnel Practices Commission as a council of advice.
2. That employers of all clergy pay to each cleric 50% of the self-employment tax assessed on the cleric's base compensation as a portion of total compensation (7.65% of base compensation). This amount is included in the above schedule.
3. The Personnel Practice Committee strongly urges all churches, wherever possible, to increase the clergy and lay staff compensation 3.0% for 2015 to accommodate for inflation.
4. That the minimum transportation allowance be \$0.56/mile for congregation-related travel; to be adjusted in accordance with IRS published rates for 2015.
5. That associate clergy minimums are based on cleric's Years of Credited Service at two grades below actual congregation classification.

The table titled “2015 Congregational Grade Structure” on page 32 in the Day of Convention Booklet for the 165th Convention of the Diocese of California is incorporated by reference.

2015 BUDGET

The 2015 Operating Budget adopted by the 165th Convention as listed on pages 24 through 28 in the Day of Convention Booklet for the 165th Convention of the Diocese of California is incorporated by reference.

III. COURTESY RESOLUTIONS

DR. JENNY TE PAA DANIEL

Whereas, Dr. Jenny Te Paa Daniel is a distinguished theologian, educator and lay leader, whose work is known across the Anglican Communion, at the Lambeth Conference 2008, in New Zealand, Australia, the South Pacific, Canada, South Africa, Kenya, the United States and various parts of Asia; and

Whereas, she was the first lay indigenous woman to head an Anglican Theological College anywhere in the Anglican Communion when she became Ahorangi or Dean of Te Rau Kahikatea at the College of St. John the Evangelist in Auckland, New Zealand in 1995; and

Whereas, she is “one of our own,” having earned her Ph.D. from the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley; and

Whereas, she now honors The Episcopal Church and the Diocese of California by her presence at the Church Divinity School of the Pacific as the St. Margaret’s Visiting Professor of Women in Ministry; and

Whereas, she inspired us by her sermon at the opening Eucharist for this 165th Convention of the Diocese of California, in which she called us to account for our failures in fully including all our people in the life of our Church, while also recognizing the promise of our vision for The Beloved Community; therefore be it

Resolved, That this 165th Convention of the Diocese of California salutes **Dr. Jenny Te Paa Daniel** for her distinguished career in the service of all God's people, and prays that God will give her the grace to continue to be an inspiring presence in our communion; and be it further

Resolved, That Dr. Jenny Te Paa Daniel is hereby granted honorary membership in this 165th Convention of the Diocese of California.

BISHOP MILLARD

Whereas, the Right Reverend **George Richard Millard** has served the Episcopal Church with great distinction as suffragan bishop of the Diocese of California and as bishop of the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe; and

Whereas, Bishop Millard is the senior bishop in the Episcopal House of Bishops, having been consecrated bishop over fifty-four years ago; and

Whereas, Bishop Millard has been a tireless advocate for justice, including participating in the Selma to Montgomery voting rights march over fifty years ago; and

Whereas, Bishop Millard continues to be a active spiritual presence in the Church and a wise and valued counselor to the current Bishop of California; and

Whereas, Bishop Millard celebrated his one hundredth birthday on the second day of this month; therefore be it

Resolved, That this 165th Convention of the Diocese of California salutes **Bishop Millard** for his long and remarkable career serving our Lord, and extends its heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of his centennial birthday; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention prays that God will continue to grant Bishop Millard physical, mental and spiritual vitality in his second century of earthly life.

PIONEERING WOMEN CLERGY

Whereas, the Rev. Katherine Lydia Ward was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, and educated at Jackson State University, has received a doctorate in education and a Master of Divinity from Church Divinity School of the Pacific in 1994; and

Whereas, the Rev. Ward was ordained a deacon on June 4, 1994 and a priest on June 1, 1995 by Bishop William Swing, and served in the Diocese of California as an assisting priest at St. Francis Church, San Francisco and St. Stephen's Church, Tiburon; and

Whereas, the Rev. Ward served as the first woman rector of St. Augustine's Church in Oakland from 1996 to 2004; and

Whereas, the Rev. Ward is a published author and a member of the Union of Black Episcopalians; and

Whereas, the Rev. Fran Toy was born in Oakland and received a bachelor's degree from the University of California, a master's degree from the University of San Francisco, and a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Divinity from Church School of the Pacific; and

Whereas, the Rev. Toy was ordained a deacon on June 9, 1984 and a priest on June 8, 1985 by Bishop Swing, and has served in the Diocese of California three times as interim rector as well assisting the historically Chinese congregations of True Sunshine San Francisco, and Church of our Saviour, Oakland; and

Whereas, the Rev. Toy has worked at CDSP and as CREDO faculty, is a published author and has served as President of the Episcopal Asiamerica Ministries of the Episcopal Church; and

Whereas, the Rev. Flora A. Keshgegian, was born in Brooklyn, New York and educated at the University of Pennsylvania, received a Master of Divinity from the Philadelphia Divinity School and a PhD from Boston College; and

Whereas, the Rev. Keshgegian was ordained a deacon on June 15, 1974 and a priest on January 29, 1977 in the Diocese of Pennsylvania; and

Whereas, the Rev. Keshgegian has served the Church in the academy as a theologian at both Church Divinity School of the Pacific and Seminary of the Southwest, teaching numerous students while publishing as well; and

Whereas, the Rev. Keshgegian did attend the first ordination of women to the priesthood in 1974 at Church of the Advocate, Philadelphia; and

Whereas, the Rev. Susan Estelle Bergmans was born in Berkeley, California, became a registered nurse in Oakland, attended Holy Names college and received a Master of Divinity from Church Divinity School of the Pacific; and

Whereas, the Rev. Bergmans was ordained a deacon in the Diocese of California June 28, 1975 by Bishop Millard, and a priest on January 5, 1977 by Bishop Meyers; and

Whereas, the Rev. Bergmans has served local congregations in the Diocese of California including Church of the Good Shepherd, Berkeley; St. Clare's Church, Pleasanton; and St. Anselm's Church, Lafayette; therefore be it resolved

Resolved, That the 165th Convention of the Diocese of California, in the 40th year of women's ordination to priesthood in The Episcopal Church, publicly and gratefully thanks these pioneering women clergy for their life-long service to the Church; and be it further

Resolved, That the Diocese of California commits to continuing to follow where the Holy Spirit leads us, as modeled so well by the Revs. Katherine Lydia Ward, Fran Toy, Flora A. Keshgegian and Susan Estelle Bergmans.

Certified by: *David A. Frangquist, Secretary of the Convention*