

**Resolutions Adopted by
The 166th Convention of the Diocese of California
October 16 & 17, 2015**

I. GENERAL RESOLUTIONS

ADMISSION OF NEW SKELLIG CELTIC CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Resolved, That the 166th Convention of the Diocese of California hereby admits the Rev. Vincent Pizzuto as a member in the clergy order and the delegates elected from The New Skellig Celtic Christian Community as members in the lay order of this Convention, said persons having been recently received into The Episcopal Church in this Diocese by the Bishop under Episcopal Church Canon I.16, with the right to voice and vote and all other rights and duties of members of the Convention.

**AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR GROUP TAX EXEMPTION
DETERMINATION BY THE FRANCHISE TAX BOARD**

Resolved, That The Episcopal Church in the Diocese of California is authorized to apply to the Franchise Tax Board of California on behalf of the cathedral church and all parishes and missions of the Diocese for a group exemption determination of their tax-exempt status.

ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTING

Resolved, That the 166th Convention of the Diocese of California calls upon the diocese to honor the principles of resolution C045, *Environmentally Responsible Investing*,¹ passed by the 78th General Convention of The Episcopal Church;

Resolved, That the Convention calls upon the diocese, while always acting in a fiscally responsible manner and consistently with its fiduciary obligations, to divest from existing and refrain from future holdings of fossil fuel companies and to encourage all congregations and their members to change their own behaviors in order to reduce their carbon footprints;

Resolved, That all congregations and institutions in the diocese engage in the topic of divestment from fossil fuel companies and reinvestment in clean energy within the coming year; and

Resolved, That this resolution constitutes an additional instruction to the Socially Responsible Task Force created by the resolution of the 165th Convention entitled "Socially Responsible Investing," and shall be regarded as an expression of the "values of the people of the Diocese of California" within the meaning of that resolution.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND ADVOCACY

Resolved, That the 166th Convention of the Diocese of California calls upon all congregations to become more supportive and safe places where those living with mental health diagnoses and their families can come for acceptance, information and the unconditional love of God;

Resolved, That the Discipleship Ministries Working Group will partner with the Diocesan Task Force on Mental Illness/Mental Health to help equip congregations and leaders with the tools, referral resources and support they need to become agents of reconciliation for those living with mental health diagnoses; and

Resolved, That Diocesan staff and congregational leaders will partner together to communicate with local, state, and federal policy makers and service providers to eliminate dangerous stigmas pertaining to brain disorders, and advocate for urgent reforms and funding for mental health care.

ADMISSION OF CHRIST THE LORD, PINOLE, AS A PARISH

Resolved, That upon recommendation of the Committee on Admissions, the requirements of Article X, Section 10.1 of the Constitution of the Diocese of California having been satisfied, the Episcopal Church of Christ the Lord, Pinole, is admitted as a parish in union with this Convention.

II. FINANCIAL RESOLUTIONS

2015 ASSESSMENT FORMULA

Resolved, That the 2015 assessment formula shall be:

1. 5% assessment on the first \$70,314 of a parish or mission's operating income for 2014. as defined on Line A of the 2014 parochial report,
2. 17% assessment on all such income above \$70,314, provided that
3. No parish or mission shall have an increase over 2015's initial assessment (before appeals) of more than 50% or \$17,500, whichever is less.

2015 SALARY RESOLUTION

Resolved, That effective January 1, 2016, 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 2.3% as reflected in the 2016 Mandatory Minimum Salary Schedule.

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

2016 Mandatory Minimum Salaries Including Self Employment Tax

Congregation Classification	Experience 0-4 Years	Experience 5-9 Years	Experience 10+ Years
A	70,314	74,220	78,125
B	72,658	76,955	81,250
C	75,028	79,688	84,375
D	78,125	84,375	90,627
E	85,939	93,751	101,642

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 2.3% for 2016 to accommodate for inflation.
4. That the minimum transportation allowance be \$0.575/mile for congregation-related travel; to be adjusted in accordance with IRS published rates for 2016.
5. That associate clergy minimums are based on cleric's Years of Credited Service at two grades below actual congregation classification.

The table titled “2016 Congregational Grade Structure” on page 41 in the Day of Convention Booklet for the 166th Convention of the Diocese of California is incorporated by reference.

2016 BUDGET

The 2016 Operating Budget adopted by the 166th Convention as listed on pages 31 through 37 in the Day of Convention Booklet for the 166th Convention of the Diocese of California is incorporated by reference.

III. COURTESY RESOLUTIONS

HONORING 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-five years ago; and

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

Whereas, Bishop Millard continues to be an 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 hundred and first birthday on the second day of this month; therefore be it

Resolved, That this 166th Convention of the Diocese of California salutes **Bishop Millard** for his ever longer and most remarkable career serving our Lord, and extends its heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of the first birthday of his second century; and be it further

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

HONORING SALYING WONG

Whereas, the Reverend **Salying Wong** has served the Convention of the Diocese of California as Chair of the Committee on Dispatch of Business since the Year of Our Lord 2010; and

Whereas, she accepted that appointment just before the role of the Committee on Dispatch of Business was expanded to include responsibility for planning the entire convention; and

Whereas, she therefore had no idea what she was getting herself into; and

Whereas, she nonetheless carried out this new work with determination, grace, good humor and a willingness to learn; and

Whereas, she has gently guided her committee in planning ever more successful conventions, such that each succeeding convention has been called “the best convention ever;” and

Whereas, she has tendered her resignation as Chair in order to pursue a new call in the Diocese of El Camino Real; therefore be it

Resolved, That this 166th Convention of the Diocese of California expresses its heartfelt thanks to the Reverend **Salying Wong** for her distinguished and spirit-filled service to the Conventions of the Diocese of California; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention beseeches God to shower blessings on the Reverend Salying Wong and the good people of Saint Thomas Episcopal Church in Sunnyvale, that her work with them may prosper, and that she may be for them a faithful pastor, a patient teacher and a wise counselor, to the Glory of God.

HONORING MARY LOUISE GOTTHOLD

Whereas, Ms. **Mary Louise Gotthold** is the consummate Episcopalian, living, breathing and dreaming the Episcopal Church each and every day; and

Whereas, she has supported the world-wide Episcopal Church through her longtime work with the Global Episcopal Mission Network and her steadfast support and involvement with Saint George's College in Jerusalem; and

Whereas, she has served this diocese with distinction as a Deputy to General Convention and Provincial Synod, as a member of Diocesan Council and as Recording Secretary of Diocesan Council and its successor Executive Council over the course of three decades; and

Whereas, she has served the Episcopal Church at all levels in more capacities than we can count and with great devotion; and

Whereas, she has served the Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of California as its Chief Registrar since the Year of Our Lord 1992; and

Whereas, she has decided to take a well-deserved break and step down as Chief Registrar after this Convention; and

Whereas, she is stepping down only after having trained the team of three successors that will be needed to replace her; and

Whereas, she has done all these things with thoroughness, grace, a sense of humor, a winning smile, and a perpetual chuckle; therefore be it

Resolved, That this 166th Convention of the Diocese of California stands in awe of the amazing accomplishments of Ms. **Mary Louise Gotthold**, and commends and thanks her for her unparalleled service to God's whole church; and be it further

Resolved, That this Convention bids God's blessings upon her that she may enjoy long life, good health, and continued opportunities to find fulfillment in the service of her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

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