



# Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe

The Rt. Rev. Mark D.W. Edington, Bishop in Charge

## 2019 Annual Convention

Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Geneva

Held at the Château de Bossey

October 24–27, 2017

## Resolutions

### **CC2019–Res. 1: Stewardship of climate**

*Resolved*, That the Convention urge the Council of Advice to appoint a task force on climate stewardship as soon as possible, to track and report on the Convocation's carbon footprint, environmental impact and sustainability at all levels, in order to report actionable steps and recommendations to the 2020 Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That we call upon this task force to identify existing movements, such as Fridays for Future, whose activities we can participate in and support, and that we listen to the Convocation youth in seeking solutions.

**Approved unanimously**

### **CC2019–Res. 2: The sin of racism**

*Resolved*, That the Convention encourage the Council of Advice to address thoughtfully the sin of racism in the European context and request support and resources from the Office of the Presiding Bishop to foster racial reconciliation, including personal testimonies and conversation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Convention recommend that racial reconciliation be a central theme of the 2020 Convocation Convention.

**Approved unanimously**

### **CC2019–Res. 3: Refugees and migrants**

*Resolved*, That the Convention ask the Council of Advice to appoint a task force on refugees and migrants to review previous and current initiatives and experiences across the Convocation, in order to index and benchmark parish responses, share best practices and serve as a guide for future Convocation actions.

**Approved unanimously**

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#### **CC2019–Res. 4: Youth**

*Resolved*, That the Convention affirm the work to date of the Convocation Youth Commission and recognize the priority and opportunity which the work with children, youth and young adults presents; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Convention call on the Council of Advice, working with the Youth Commission, to develop a comprehensive strategy and to authorize significantly expanded Convocation resources to engage children, youth and young adults in our congregations, and to welcome, include and integrate youth participation in all Convocation gatherings.

**Approved unanimously**

#### **CC2019–Res. 5: Review of Constitution and Canons of the Convocation**

*Resolved*, That the Convention instruct the Council of Advice to appoint a task force, composed of all orders of ministry, to review the Constitution and Canons of the Convocation and propose amendments for action at the 2020 Convention.

**Approved unanimously**

Resolutions 1–5 respectfully submitted by the Committee to Respond to the Bishop's Address: Mr. Andrew Kluetz, the Rev. Austin Rios, the Rev. Allan Sandlin and Ms. Monica Sharp

#### **CC2019–Res. 6: Ministry to Youth and Children**

*Resolved*, That the Convention affirm the work to date of the Convocation Youth Commission and recognize the priority and opportunity which the work with children, youth and young adults presents; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Council of Advice and/or EICS create a task force to familiarize the Convocation with children's ministry resources of The Episcopal Church, and strongly consider creating a Children's Ministry Commission comparable to the Youth Commission and report back to the 2020 Convention; and be it further

*Resolved*, That this Convention call on the Council of Advice, working with the Youth Commission, to develop a comprehensive strategy and to authorize significantly expanded Convocation resources to engage children, youth and young adults in our congregations, and to welcome, include and integrate youth participation in all Convocation gatherings.

**Approved unanimously as amended**

Presented by the Rev. Sunny Hallanan and the Very Rev. Lucinda Laird

#### **CC2019–Res. 7: Being a safe church for all**

*Resolved*, That the Convocation, its organizations and congregations, be safe zones, where no unwanted touch or sexually provocative language or action is considered appropriate by any persons; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Safeguarding Officer and EICS work together to develop educational materials on this resolution.

**Explanation:** This resolution would clarify that the theological basis of the Safeguarding Policy approved on 25 October 2019 would apply not only to children, youth and those persons defined as vulnerable, but to all persons, lay and ordained. Implementation could begin with parish level conversations around the meaning and implications of this behavior.

**Approved as amended with two dissenting votes**

Presented by the Rev. Sunny Hallanan and the Resolutions Committee

**CC2019–Res. 8: Safeguarding languages**

*Resolved,* That the Bishop and Council of Advice, in collaboration with the Safeguarding Officer, work with all deliberate speed to ensure that the Safeguarding training and policy be made available in all languages of the Convocation.

**Approved unanimously as amended**

Presented by the Rev. Sunny Hallanan and the Resolutions Committee

**CC2019–Res. 9: Resolutions of Courtesy**

*Resolved,* that the Convocation express its:

- special greetings to the Most Rev. Michael Curry, the Presiding Bishop and Primate, and to the Rev. Dr. Gay Jennings, the President of the House of Deputies
- special welcome to the Rt. Rev. Robert Innes, the Church of England's Diocese of Gibraltar in Europe, with gratitude for the fellowship shared with us during this Convention
- special welcome and grateful thanks to the Rev. Canon Dr. Stephanie Spellers for wonderfully enriching Convention by her presence and with her engaging and inspiring addresses
- deep gratitude to Fr. Prof. Dr. Ioan Saucă, Director of the Ecumenical Institute, for his welcome to Bossey and his presentation of the important and exciting work of the Institute
- warm welcome to the Rev. Canon Adèle Kelham, Archdeacon of Switzerland, Diocese in Europe
- heartfelt prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery to the Rev. Canon Elaine Labourel from the Diocese in Europe and Mrs. Nancy Treuhold, Board of Foreign Parishes
- greetings to the Rev. Canon Alex Gordon, from the Church of the Holy Trinity, Geneva, and the Rev. Peter Jackson, from the Church of the Holy Trinity, Nice, Diocese in Europe
- heartfelt thanks to all volunteers and parishioners from Emmanuel Church, Geneva, and especially the organizing committee. We acknowledge in particular the tireless work of the Rev. Canon Michael Rusk, the Rev. Deacon Richard Cole, Mrs. Helena Mbele-Mbong, Mrs. Debbie Groby, Mrs. Marilyn Geiger, the Africa Night team, and special appreciation to Mr. David Pittuck and the dedicated team of shuttle drivers

- gratitude to the staff of the Château de Bossey for their warm welcome and considerate service
- warm welcome to new clergy: the Rev. Deacon Jean Dumond Chavanne, the American Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, Paris; the Rev. Andrew Cooley, St. James, Florence; the Rev. Deacon Steven McPeck, St. Augustine of Canterbury, Wiesbaden; the Rev. Allan Sandlin, Church of the Ascension, Munich; the Rev. Shane Scott-Hamblen, St. Paul's within the Walls, Rome; and the Rev. Deacon Beth Wagner, St. Boniface, Augsburg
- welcome to all delegates and alternates attending the Convention for the first time
- warm welcome to Thoma Lipartiani and Salomé Esseboua, congratulations to our brothers and sisters in the community of Saint Nino, Tbilisi, Georgia, on their admission as a specialized mission of the Convocation
- gratitude and appreciation to the Rev. Dr. Mark Barwick who has just completed his service to COMB and, especially, to Dr. Lee Williams, the outgoing Chair
- special thanks to Dr. Yvonne Cockcroft, our outgoing Safeguarding Officer, for her tremendous efforts enabling us to establish a new Convocation policy
- thanks to the Committee to Respond to the Bishop's Address for its careful, considerate and creative responses to the questions raised and challenges identified
- deep gratitude to the Council of Advice for its hard work and dedication, and especially to the outgoing President, Mrs. Anne Swardson, Paris
- thanks to the Ven. Walter Baer, Archdeacon, for all the invaluable work that he undertakes on matters important to the Convocation, especially the Convocation Newsletter and website
- deep gratitude to the Rev. Deacon Richard Cole, Secretary of Convention, and to the Rev. Dorothee Hahn, Recording Secretary
- many thanks to Ms. Sophie Plé, Convocation Administrator
- special thanks to the Convocation Treasurer, Mr. Denis Le Moullac, for his dedicated work in managing and reporting on Convocation finances
- thanks to Shauna Beesley, the Convocation Choir and the Emmanuel Church Choir, who have so beautifully enhanced our worship
- gratitude for the hard work of the many elected and appointed individuals at Convocation level who continue to vision and strengthen the reality of our ministry in Europe, and who encourage and support us as we travel along the Way
- deep gratitude to our Bishop, Mark D.W. Edington, in the first year of his faithful leadership of our Convocation, appreciation for his thoughtful, innovative and effective chairmanship of Convention, and for inspiring and challenging us in his address.

### **Unanimously approved as a packet**

Proposed by the Resolutions Committee: Mr. David Case, The Rev. Deacon Richard Cole and Mrs. Helena Mbele-Mbong.