

Social Justice Resolutions
of
the 79th General Convention
of
the Episcopal Church

AN INTERIM REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION

April 28, 2020

Prepared by: The General Convention Task Force of the Episcopal Networks Collaborative



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[About this report](#)

The data for this interim report was collected in July 2019, and updated in February 2020, according to availability of data. For updates check with the respective committees or the General Convention Office. More complete reports will be done for the Blue Book this fall.

The following resolutions were endorsed by the Episcopal Networks Collaborative which includes the Episcopal Network for Economic Justice, the Union of Black Episcopalians, and the Episcopal Ecological Network. This report lists the disposition, committee assignment and current status of each resolution. The various committee reports for the Blue Book are not due until September 2020.

A008 – Continuing the Advisory Council on the Stewardship of Creation – take no further Action.
Committee 20:

Name	Position	Term ends	Diocese, Province
Johnson, The Rev. Stephanie	Chair	2021	Connecticut, I
Rice, The Rt. Rev. David	Vice-Chair	2021	San Joaquin, VIII
Kerr, Mr. Tyler	Secretary	2021	Los Angeles, VIII
Acosta, The Rev. Richard	Member	2021	Colombia, IX
Bascom, The Rt. Rev. Cathleen C.	Member	2021	Kansas, VII
Demientieff, Bernadette	Member	2021	Alaska, VIII
Empshall, The Rev. Nathan	Member	2021	Spokane, VIII
Fitzpatrick, The Rt. Rev. Robert	Member	2021	Hawaii, VIII
Griffin, The Rev. P. Joshua	Member	2021	California, VIII
Heck, Dr. Delia	Member	2021	Southwestern Virginia, III
Hirschfeld, The Rt. Rev. A. Robert	Member	2021	New Hampshire, I
Hodgkins Jones, Ms. Perry	Member	2021	Western North Carolina, IV
Lattime, The Rt. Rev. Mark	Member	2021	Alaska, VIII
Mackenzie, The Rev. Lester	Member	2021	Los Angeles, VIII
Mallett Stephens, The Rev. Hershey	Member	2021	North Carolina, IV
Mathews, The Rev. Weston	Member	2021	Virginia, III
Munoz, The Rev. Canon Dimas	Member	2021	Puerto Rico, IX
Nolan, Ms. Sarah	Member	2021	Virginia, III
Powell, The Rev. Deacon Lewis	Member	2021	Northern California, VIII
Richardson, The Very Rev. W. Mark	Member	2021	California, VIII
Sellers-Petersen, Brian	Member	2021	Olympia, VIII
Thompson, Dr. Andrew	Member	2021	East Tennessee, IV
Curry, The Most Rev. Michael	Ex Officio	2021	North Carolina, IV

Name	Position	Term ends	Diocese, Province
Jennings, The Rev. Gay Clark	Ex Officio	2021	Ohio, V
Mullen, Rev. Melanie	Staff	2021	

Follow up on A008 includes allocation of money for Creation Care grants and soliciting proposals. Grants are expected to be announced soon. The Office of Government Relations (OGR) produced an eight-part Creation Care Series ([www.episcopalchurch.org/posts/ogr/entire-EPPN-Creation-Care Series](http://www.episcopalchurch.org/posts/ogr/entire-EPPN-Creation-Care-Series)).

A011 – Oppose Environmental Racism. Concur. Committee 20. Follow up is ongoing as OGR increases worker advocacy. OGR also works with the Office of Reconciliation, Justice and Creation Care and ecumenical partners in advocacy to protect communities affected by environmental degradation. Environmental Racism Report due to Executive Council in December, 2019. Creation Care Pledge includes “liberating” component that directly addresses this issue.

A014 – Carbon Offsets. Committee 20. Funding is under consideration. Awaiting more detailed proposal as to how this might occur. Exploring options with Episcopal Relief and Development.

A015 – Anti Racism / Diversity / Bias. Concur. Committee 9.

A042 – Proposed Name Change for EC Committee on Anti-Racism. Concur. Referral to interim bodies.

A044 – Establishing an Anti-Racism/Racial Reconciliation Certification Framework: Building Capacity for Becoming Beloved Community. Concur. Committee 9.

A045 – Revision and Reminder of Anti-Racism Training Component. Concur. Committee 9.

A046 – Host a Racial Reconciliation Awards Program. Reject.

A047 – Ethical Investments. Take no further action.

A056 – Establish Social Justice / Advocacy Task Force. Concur. This (using the name, Task Force on Theology of Social Justice Advocacy) was established with the following members:

Name	Position	Term ends	Diocese, Province
Lawton, Ms. Sarah	Chair	2021	California, VIII
Singh, The Rt. Rev. Prince	Vice-Chair	2021	Rochester, II
Dietsche, The Rt. Rev. Andrew	Member	2021	New York, II
Frey, Ms. Ruth	Member	2021	New York, II
Hodges-Copple, The Rt. Rev. Anne	Member	2021	North Carolina, IV
Lee, Professor Brant	Member	2021	Ohio, V
Leemhuis, The Rev. Deacon Guy	Member	2021	Los Angeles, VIII
Lloyd, Ms. Lallie	Member	2021	Massachusetts, I
Mbuwayesango, Dr. Dora	Member	2021	North Carolina, IV
Rodriguez-Sanjuro, The Rev. Jose	Member	2021	Central Florida, IV
Varghese, Reuben	Member	2021	Washington, III
Watson Epting, The Rev. Susanne	Member	2021	Iowa, VI
Curry, The Most Rev. Michael	Ex Officio	2021	North Carolina, IV

Name	Position	Term ends	Diocese, Province
Jennings, The Rev. Gay Clark	Ex Officio	2021	Ohio, V

This committee will offer a reflection on structures of injustice, including economic class and racial segregation, and suggest pathways to Christian discipleship in overcoming the problem of class- and race-segregated churches, in engagement and service in our broader communities, and in advocacy born out of those relationships.

A057 – Strengthen Staffing Resources. Budget provides \$80,000 to Reconciliation, Justice and Stewardship of Creation. Phoebe Chatfield was hired in July to help administer Creation Care and Jubilee Ministries.

A061 – Create a Task Force on the Theology of Money. Concur. Task force has been formed with the following members:

Name	Position	Term ends	Diocese, Province
Garner, The Rev. Evan	Chair	2021	Arkansas, VII
Brown, The Rt. Rev. Kevin	Vice-Chair	2021	Delaware, III
de Leeuw, The Rev. Dr. Gawain	Member	2021	New York, II
Dwyer, The Rev. John	Member	2021	Minnesota, VI
Frazer, The Rev. Candice	Member	2021	Alabama, IV
Harris, The Rt. Rev. Gayle	Member	2021	Massachusetts, I
Hayes-Martin, The Rev. Gia	Member	2021	California, VIII
McKeown, Mr. W. B.	Member	2021	New York, II
Provenzano, The Rt. Rev. Lawrence	Member	2021	Long Island, II
Smith, The Rt. Rev. Kirk	Member	2021	Arizona, VIII
Tomlinson, Dr. Steven	Member	2021	Texas, VII
Ventura, Ms. Celeste	Member	2021	El Camino Real, VIII
Walker, Mr. Doug	Member	2021	Florida, IV
Weber-Johnson, Ms. Erin	Member	2021	Minnesota, VI
Wesley Gomez, Mrs. Pamela	Member	2021	Connecticut, I
Curry, The Most Rev. Michael	Ex Officio	2021	North Carolina, IV
Jennings, The Rev. Gay Clark	Ex Officio	2021	Ohio, V

B004 – Eliminate Usage of the Term Anti-Racism. Concur. Committee 9.

B005 – Gun Violence as a Public Health Issue. Concur. Committee 8. In February 2019, OGR hosted and coordinated an advocacy day for bishops. OGR has supported three pieces of legislation that limit access to guns for people convicted of hate crimes, outlaw high capacity magazines, and for Congress to provide funding for research on gun violence and its effect on public health.

B029 – Reaffirmation of Jubilee Ministries of the Episcopal Church. Concur. Assigned to Reconciliation, Justice and Stewardship of Creation with small appropriation for grants and staffing. The resolution calls for renewal of the Jubilee Network but there is currently no provision for active staffing of this effort.

The networks have been offered communications support if they wish to help revive the Jubilee Network. Over 350 Jubilee Centers are listed on TEC's Asset Map.

C002 – Support Legislation for a Clean Dream Act. Take no further action.

C004 – Study the Implications of Expanding Paid Family Leave. Take no further action.

C008 – Advocacy for Creation Care. Concur. Committee 20. Three working groups: Networking & Small Grants, Environmental Justice & Environmental Racism, and Theology. Establishing networks throughout TEC both geographic and topical. Launching small grants in August 2019. Establishing connections, Story Sharing and Toolbox for TEC along Environmental Justice themes. Developing theological resources and Creation Care Pledge.

C009 – Becoming a Sanctuary Church. Concur. Committee 8. See the Episcopal Networks Collaborative's Immigration Stories at www.enej.org/publications for more about the Sanctuary Movement.

C013 – Against Human Trafficking. Take No Further Action.

C018 - Becoming a Sanctuary Church. Take no further action. We support the Sanctuary Movement and OGR Statement.

C020 – Carbon Tax. Concur. Committee 20. OGR to respond and a Trust Fund for a carbon tax. OGR is working with a group of bishops and include this in their advocacy work.

C021 – Climate Change and Additional Support for EC Committee on Corporate Responsibility. Tell Corporate Socially Responsible Investing to invest in green resources. Concur. Committee 18. Climate Summits in New York City September 23-25 provided educational opportunities surrounding Climate Change, Financing and Sustainable Development.

C032 – Against Human Trafficking. Concur. No action needed by networks. This involves the church as institution. Committee 8.

C033 – Respecting the Dignity of Immigrants. Concur. Committee 8. OGR is involved in lobbying with Congress on a long list of reforms including the Dream Act. Promote local work to support events and advocacy.

C041 – Repair America's Safety Net. Concur. Committee 8. This was not fully funded but there is broad support and the diocesan and state level for public benefits. OGR is involved in broad public policy advocacy including changes in the tax code including the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit.

C042 – Climate Change / Corporate Governance. Take no further action. CSR could advocate against global warming with stock votes. Committee 18. Climate Summits in New York City September 23-25, 2019, will provide educational opportunities surrounding Climate Change, Financing and Sustainable Development.

C047 – Support One Person, One Vote. Concur. Committee 4. We could advocate the elimination of the Electoral College. OGR is coordinating its advocacy with the Task Force.

C061 – Encouraging the Use of the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children. Committee 3. Passed as C032.

D001 – Temporary Protective Status. Merged with omnibus immigration resolution.

- D002** – Funding the Work of Beloved Community. Concur. Committee 9. Funded at \$1 Million. Assigned to Reconciliation, Justice and Stewardship of Creation.
- D003** – Addressing the Issue of Voter Suppression. Committee 8. OGR is working on this. Networks can promote local and state legislation.
- D004** – Addressing Mass Incarceration. Concur. Committee 8. OGR supports 2019 Criminal Justice Reform Bill. (First Step Act) and appropriations to fund the programs authorized in it. A task force will look into Church practice and seek a common policy for church organizations. EPPN has published a series on criminal justice.
- D005** – Gather Racial, Ethnic Statistics about Episcopal Elections and Clergy Compensation. Concur. Committee 15. Action by OPD?
- D006** – Just Transition: Automation and New Technology. Committee 8. This is included in OGR work.
- D008** – Practicing Responsible Investing. Committee 18. ENEJ will publish a new booklet on community investing.
- D013** – Eliminate the Provision of Legal Slavery in the U.S. Constitution. Concur. Committee 8. OGR will work with the Task Force.
- D015** – Support Keeping Families Together. Committee 8. Part of advocacy for immigration reform.
- D017** – Reducing Sexual Harassment and Exploitation in the Work Place. Concur. Committee 8. Part of worker justice work of OGR. There is some state and local activity.
- D029** – Condemning Prolonged Solitary Confinement as a Form of Torture. Concur. Committee 8. OGR coordinates with national religious bodies to advocate.
- D031** – Recognizing and Ending Domestic Violence in Our Congregations. Concur. Committee 14. Internal.
- D032** – Equal Access to Health Care Regardless of Gender. Committee 8. Part of OGR’s ongoing work.
- D071** – Establish State Policy Networks. Not funded. Committee 8.
- D081** – Helping Communities Affected by Change in Energy Use. Concur. Committee 20. Advocate for safety net programs and community development programs such as the Appalachian Regional Commission. No specific proposals have come forward yet, but funds are available if any are developed. This concern is addressed in the comprehensive education program of OGR.
- A228** – Beloved Community Summit. Concur. A committee was formed and held the summit in 2019. \$50,000 was allocated for this project.

Committees

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|---|---|
| 3 - Safeguarding and Title IV | 18 - Stewardship and Socially Responsible Investing |
| 4 - Governance and Structure | |
| 8 - Social Justice and US Policy | 20 – Taskforce on Care of Creation and Environmental Racism |
| 9 - Racial Justice and Reconciliation | |
| 14 - Christian Formation and Discipleship | |
| 15 - Ministry | |