

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MONTANA

RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO THE 108TH DIOCESAN CONVENTION DELEGATES IN BIG SKY 8 OCTOBER 2011

1. THE 77TH GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE USA DESIGNATE SEPTEMBER AS LAY MINISTRY MONTH

Whereas, The work of the church is ministry and lay people are the first listed in the Book of Common Prayer as ministers of the church, and

Whereas, It is important for people to recognize that they are Christ's heart, hands and feet in the world, and

Whereas, The Episcopal Diocese of Montana has observed September as Lay Ministry Month for the past seven years as a time to celebrate the ministry of lay people in the workplace, school, volunteer activities and through outreach with a special litany, a pastoral letter from the bishop and with Lay Ministry Fairs being held in parishes, and

Whereas, We would like to see September declared as official Lay Ministry Month in the Episcopal Church,

Resolved, That the 76th General Convention designate September as Lay Ministry Month annually in The Episcopal Church in the USA.

Originated by the Diocesan Commission on Ministry
Estimated cost and source of funding is zero.

2. TITLE IV RESOLUTION 8411

Whereas, The 76th General Convention of the Episcopal Church at its tri-annual meeting in 2009 adopted substantial revisions to the Canons for Ecclesiastical Discipline also known as Title IV; and

Whereas, The several Dioceses of the Episcopal Church have been instructed by the 76th General Convention to adopt local Canons in each Diocese implementing the provisions of the revised Title IV Canons; and

Whereas, The Revised Title IV Canons permit one or more Dioceses to join together and in combination to share assets and resources in order to implement the revised Title IV Canons; and

Whereas, The annual convention of the Diocese of Montana in 2010 adopted the revisions to Title IV in compliance with the directive of the General Convention; and found that it was in the best interest of the Diocese of Montana to enter into an agreement with one or more Dioceses of the Episcopal Church to share assets and resources in order to implement the provisions of the revised Title IV Canons.; and

Whereas, The convention requested that the Bishop enter into negotiations with one or more neighboring Dioceses of the Episcopal Church in order to implement the Title IV revisions within a multi-diocesan structure; and if the Bishop found that such an agreement was possible, to enter into, and implement, an agreement or agreements with one or more neighboring Diocese/s of the Episcopal Church to share assets and resources consistent with the provisions of Title IV, in consultation with the Standing Committee; and

Whereas, In compliance with that request, the Bishop has successfully negotiated a Compact for Ecclesiastical Discipline with the Diocese of Idaho, (a copy of which is attached below).

Resolved:

The Diocese of Montana adopt a new Canon implementing the provisions of Title IV of the General Canons of the Episcopal Church in compliance with the Compact for Ecclesiastical Discipline with the Diocese of Idaho. A copy of the proposed new canon is attached.

In the event that an agreement is reached with one or more neighboring dioceses of the Episcopal Church, the Bishop shall then appoint, in consultation with the Standing Committee, such officers necessary to implement the revisions in Title IV within a multi-diocesan structure consistent with the revisions to the Canons for Ecclesiastical Discipline adopted at the 76th General Convention in 2009. Such appointment/s shall become effective on July 1, 2011, or on the date such appointment is executed by the Bishop, whichever occurs last.

DIOCESAN ECCLESIASTICAL DISCIPLINARY COMPACT

The Dioceses of Idaho and Montana (The Dioceses) have agreed to maintain a joint Disciplinary Board, and cooperate in the sharing of personnel and other resources, for the purposes of implementing Title IV of the Canons of The Episcopal Church. This agreement sets out the terms of such cooperation and is effective as of the date last signed.

1. The Disciplinary Board shall consist of nine persons, five of whom are members of the Clergy and four of whom are Laity and shall constitute a court for purposes of Article IX of the Constitution of The Episcopal Church. Each Bishop shall appoint two clergy and two lay members of the Disciplinary Board. The Bishops shall then, after conferring with each other, jointly appoint a fifth cleric who shall be the ninth member of the Disciplinary Board. At their first meeting the Disciplinary Board shall select one member as President. Eventually, each member of the Disciplinary Board shall serve a three-year term, each term to begin on January 1 following appointment. However, at the first meeting, in order to eventually achieve staggered three year terms, the nine members shall draw lots so that three have terms which shall expire on December 31, 2012, three have terms which shall expire on December 31, 2013 and three have terms which shall expire on December 31, 2014. Thereafter, each Bishop shall appoint

replacements for members of that Diocese, whose terms have ended, for full three-year terms, replacing lay with lay and clergy with clergy. The jointly appointed cleric may be jointly re-appointed or another cleric may be jointly selected but it is expected that the residence of the person selected will alternate between the two Dioceses. Members may serve no more than two successive terms, after which they must step down for at least one year before being re-appointed. If a member is appointed to fill a vacancy, the term of such member shall be the unexpired term of the member being replaced.

2. The Dioceses shall maintain this cooperation until one of the Dioceses gives written notice to the other that it wishes to terminate this arrangement no less than one year following the time of notice.
3. The Disciplinary Board shall attempt to conduct much of its communication by electronic means. When it is necessary to incur expense for Disciplinary Board business, members of the Board shall make every effort to minimize such expense. Expenses incurred for a particular charge shall be borne normally by the Diocese in which the accused clergy is canonically resident. In situations in which more than one Diocese is involved, the bishops of the affected dioceses shall agree on venue and expense allocation. Administrative expenses of the Disciplinary Board shall be shared equally by the Dioceses.
4. Intake Officers, Investigators and Church Attorneys shall serve for charges brought against clergy canonically resident in the Diocese in which those Church Attorneys have been appointed except in matters of a charge spanning more than one Diocese in which case the Bishops of the affected Dioceses shall decide which Church Attorney shall be involved. The Bishops may jointly appoint a Church Attorney or such other officers needed to ensure the proper and efficient operation of the Disciplinary Board.

The Rt. Rev. Brian Thom
Bishop Diocesan of Idaho

The Rt. Rev. C. Franklin Brookhart
Bishop Diocesan of Montana

Dated this _____ Day of _____, 2011

Dated this _____ Day of _____, 2011

Originator: Chancellor Jim Shuler
Estimated cost and source of funding unknown

3. TO COMMEMORATE THE RIGHT REVEREND DANIEL S. TUTTLE, THE REVEREND GEORGE W. FOOTE AND THE REVEREND E. N. GODDARD TO THE 77TH GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH BY BEING INCLUDED IN THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR, HOLY WOMEN, HOLY MEN

Topic/Title: Church Calendar: Commemoration of the Right Reverend Daniel S. Tuttle, The Reverend George W. Foote and the Reverend E. N. Goddard

Proposer: The Diocese of Montana

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That application be made to the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music to designate May 23 as the annual commemoration of the life and work of the Right Reverend Daniel S. Tuttle, the Bishop of Montana with Jurisdiction in Idaho and Utah, the Reverend George W. Foote and the Reverend E. N. Goddard in the liturgical calendar, Holy Women, Holy Men.

Explanation:

On May 23, 1867, newly consecrated Bishop Tuttle and the Reverend E. N. Goddard left New York for Salt Lake City where they would join the Reverend George Foote in establishing the Episcopal Church in Utah, Idaho and Montana.

Explanation:

Many people were instrumental in the establishment of the Episcopal Church in the mountain west but remarkably important among them all were Bishop Tuttle and the Reverends E. N. Goddard and George W. Foote. Joining in the effort to mark these people in our liturgical calendar will most likely be the Diocese of Utah which probably will introduce a similar, if not identical, piece of legislation at the next General Convention. If the Diocese of Montana passes this resolution, it would then be sent to the offices of the General Convention where it would then be given over to the House of Deputies and the House of Bishops for their deliberation. Both the Dioceses of Utah and Montana are interested in working together with this and thus the resolution will be significantly amended or even replaced with a substitute resolution when it reaches the floor of Diocesan Convention. These amendments hopefully will reflect the collaborative work between the Dioceses and their historians in shaping the above resolution for the General Convention's consideration. Particularly, the "Explanation" in the above resolution will be considerably expanded and refined by the time of Diocesan Convention.

Originator: The Reverend Canon Bradley S. Wirth

Estimated cost and source of funding: There is no related expense to the Diocese of Montana regarding the implementation of this resolution.

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