

Resolution: Revitalization of Congregations

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, that the 78th General Convention shall promote the revitalization of existing congregations within The Episcopal Church through the creation of a congregational revitalization network; and be it further

Resolved, that a churchwide staff position be created to facilitate the creation of this network and coordinate training opportunities for congregational leaders; and be it further

Resolved, that a network of regional consultants be identified and trained in congregational revitalization, who shall be available to congregations in varying parts of the church to consult with them on revitalization efforts; and be it further

Resolved, that the staff leader and the network of consultants shall provide training opportunities for congregational clergy and lay leaders in order to help them re-vision their purpose, use of space, outreach to their communities, evangelism efforts, and new ways of proclaiming the gospel of Christ; and be it further

Resolved, that Congregation Revitalization Venture Fund be created to fund grants to existing congregations, with special attention given to congregations reaching out to populations that are underrepresented in The Episcopal Church that have a high potential for growth in their contexts; and be it further

Resolved, that the Development Office be directed to make raising \$300,000 for the Congregation Revitalization Venture Fund one of its priorities in the 2016-18 triennium; and be it further

Resolved, that the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance be requested to consider an allocation of \$700,000 for the 2016-18 triennium for the implementation of this resolution.

EXPLANATION: The Taskforce for Reimagining The Episcopal Church has encouraged all congregations to follow Jesus into the neighborhood, traveling lightly. This resolution empowers congregations to do this work by providing training, resources, and people to consult with congregations about ministry and revitalization in their contexts. The resolution provides grants for congregations doing this work, especially those reaching out to populations that are underrepresented in The Episcopal Church that have a high potential for growth.