

TASK FORCE ON CARE OF CREATION & ENVIRONMENTAL RACISM

Membership

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

Mandate

Resolutions 2018-A011 & 2018-A013

2018-A011 Oppose Environmental Racism

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 79th General Convention affirm the need for governments, private industry and all people to act to protect the health of all persons from unsafe and unhealthy exposures to air and water pollution, toxic substances, or radiation in their food, water supply, living quarters, and work places; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church recommit to the excellent work done by previous General Conventions of The Episcopal Church, specifically resolutions 2000-D005, 2012-B023, 2012-C079, and 2015-C013 and that General Convention affirm that no community, especially poor communities, those who live closest to the land in subsistence cultures, and members of marginalized ethnic groups, should bear a disproportionate risk of environmental pollution or degradation; and advocate for and support policies that protect these populations and the sanctity of communities and the livelihood of future generations from the disparate impact of climate change and environmental degradation; and be it further

Resolved, that General Convention direct the formation of a Task Force, not to exceed twelve people, including attorneys, health professionals, environmental professionals, and bishops and other clergy to study and report specific recommendations for appropriate changes in federal, state, or local law so that effective judicial remedies, based on a showing of disproportionate health or environmental impact on those living closest to the land in subsistence cultures, ethnic minorities or poor communities, can be obtained to address unwise governmental decisions with respect to land use, industrial, energy and transportation development, and application of environmental standards; and be it further

Resolved, The Task Force will report to Executive Council by the end of 2019.

2018-A013 Facilitating the Development of the Church's Ministry of the Care of Creation

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 79th General Convention affirm the President of the House Deputies' and the Presiding Bishop's call to the Church to recognize Care of Creation as an integral part of The Jesus Movement; and be it further

Resolved, That, as disciples of Jesus Christ, we recognize that the Earth is the Lord's (Psalm 24), has been made in and through Christ (John 1) and we are placed in it as a garden planet (Genesis 2); and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention urge the establishment of an additional senior staff position for the Care of Creation as a member of the Episcopal Church Center staff; and be it further

Resolved, That this staff person shall serve as a resource for the Church, a liaison between Episcopal faith communities and institutions with their many creation care initiatives, network developer for sharing best practices, contact person for the denomination, partners and faith communities, ambassador between evangelism, racial justice and care of creation, and advocate for funding, visibility and action; and be it further

Resolved, That the 79th General Convention authorize a Task Force for the Care of Creation to develop this aspect of the ongoing mission and ministry of The Episcopal Church; and be it further

Resolved, That this Task Force of up to 20 persons be appointed jointly by the President of the House of Deputies and the Presiding Bishop, with members to include a geographically diverse representation from the Church mindful to include younger generations, people of color and native persons who are and will be disproportionately affected by climate change; and be it further

Resolved, That this Task Force work during the period of 2018-2021 and submit a report to the 80th General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the Task Force shall develop and refine the small grants program begun by the 2015-2018 Advisory Council for Stewardship of Creation to support local and regional eco-ministry efforts; engage eco-justice site projects, and further develop creation care networks based on bioregions (a region defined by characteristics of the natural environment rather than by human-made divisions) and/or areas of affinity, (e.g. renewable energy, regenerative agriculture, liturgy, Christian formation); and be it further

Resolved, That the staff person for the Care of Creation shall liaise with and support the work of the Task Force for the Care of Creation; and be it further

Resolved, That the Task Force shall receive and help disseminate case studies and best practices in keeping with the spirit of the Paris Climate Accord, that is, supporting humanity's transition from industrial life to sustainable life; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention recommend to the President of the House Deputies and the Presiding Bishop in consultation with the Task Force to establish and to appoint persons to a Theology of Creation Working Group tasked with facilitating innovative educational offerings in environmental ethics and theology for the formation of clergy and laity.

Summary of Work

The TFCCER was tasked to respond to two resolutions noted above. The Task Force which was convened folded in the Task Force on Environmental Racism and the Theology of Creation Working group.

The TF had their initial meeting in November 2018 in Maryland. At this meeting we shared our personal stories of faith, hope and care for creation, while outlining steps for our future work. While in those meetings, devastating fires raged in California near a church where one of our members served. In ways that would shadow future meetings and our work, we were deeply personally aware about the ravages of climate change. The second and final in person meeting was in Salt Lake City in November 2019. We spent time in prayer and reflection, sharing our stories and dreaming of new possibilities for the church and God's creation. We were very intentional at that meeting to spend time focusing on the pastoral and practical needs for a just transition away from fossil fuel, recognizing the need to be responsive and caring to the entire church. We had hoped to make that work one of our priorities in our final year along with our ecojustice efforts. However, the pandemic, upended much of that planning and visioning.

Throughout the triennium the entire TF met via zoom for 14 meetings. Our efforts were on forming individual working groups on three areas: environmental racism and ecojustice, networking and grants, and theology. We initially spent much time on our work around eco-justice and environmental racism, including fruitful conversation about the Episcopal Church's website and the glossary. In parallel, work began on revising the grants program with opportunities for large Impact grants. The carbon offset program, also detailed below, was an important area of focus which we had been excited to launch until the pandemic hit.

These groups met independently of the TF to advance their projects. Reports from each of these working groups are given below.

We were also tasked with evaluating and helping to develop unfunded resolutions from the 79th General Convention, using a budget line for these projects. Those projects included the following:

- Resolution 2018-C008, supporting the use of a web-based carbon tracker designed by the Diocese of California. The task force agreed to commit \$30,000 to this project.
- Resolution 2018-A018, supporting the Episcopal Church's participation in the United Nations Conference of Parties. The task force agreed to support that participation at a reduced level from previous years and to encourage a public application process for selecting participants.
- Resolution 2018-A014, creating a carbon offset program for the Episcopal Church. This resolution is addressed below.

- Resolution 2018-D053, creating a survey of church-owned lands and making recommendations for creation care of the lands. Plainsong Farms was funded to begin many aspects of this project and began mapping church-owned lands in three dioceses, plus is developing a toolbox for other dioceses to use. The Task Force recommended that Executive Council approve \$20,600 for this work which moved forward. The Task Force believes that moving forward this work can be aligned with the Asset Mapping for eco-justice.
- Resolution 2018-A213, a survey of energy and water efficiency in church buildings. The task force was unable to advance this project.
- Resolution 2018-D081, helping communities affected by change in energy use. The task force explored ways to advance this work with a variety of approaches; however, the planning work was slowed by the pandemic, but was unable to develop specific projects.

Environmental Racism/Environmental Justice Working Group

General Convention Resolution 2018-A011 called for the formation of a task force to address environmental injustice (the unequal distribution of environmental harms) and environmental racism (the systemic disproportionate imposition of environmental harms on communities of color specifically). This task force was subsequently combined with the task force addressing creation care to form the Task Force for Care of Creation and Environmental Racism (TFCCER), which then formed a working group specifically focused on environmental racism and environmental injustice.

The work of the Working Group on Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice focused on strengthening existing projects and networks through story-sharing and asset mapping. The group partnered with the Episcopal Asset Map to enhance the capabilities of the map in order to highlight areas of environmental injustice and racism and to facilitate partnerships with environmental justice organizations. In order to support environmental justice work on parish and diocesan levels, the working group developed a Care of Creation Glossary with an emphasis on various forms of environmental injustice and environmental racism. It also collaborated with the Office of the Presiding Bishop to develop a Creation Care Covenant with specific suggestions for “Loving Formation,” “Liberating Advocacy,” and “Life-Giving Conservation” and with a central role for the Asset Map. The group also helped reformat the Episcopal Church’s Creation Care website.

In its networking efforts, the Working Group on Environmental Racism and Environmental Justice formed partnerships with Repairers of the Breach, the National Black Environmental Justice Network, the Southeast Climate & Energy Network, Southeast Faith Leaders Network, Tennessee State University, St. Augustine University and Ferrum College to provide training on using the

Episcopal Asset Map for community engagement surrounding environmental concerns. In the context of this work, a proposal was drafted to develop and implement trainings for utilizing the asset map for environmental justice work and a toolkit for dioceses to establish their own environmental justice ministries. In December 2020, a pilot training was offered to five dioceses to test the use of mapping and discuss community organizing opportunities. It was agreed that these dioceses would continue to work on the asset maps with specific mapping layers that would provide important information for their eco-justice work. The staff at the Episcopal Church will be responsible for moving these efforts forward.

Theology Working Group

Resolution 2018-A008 tasked the TFCCER with forming a Theology of Creation Working Group to facilitate education in creation theology. With mandate this in mind, the working group collaborated with the editors of The Anglican Theological Review to compile a special thematic issue of the ATR entitled “All Things Hold Together: Intersections in Creation Care.” The issue is guest co-edited by Andrew Thompson and Sarah Nolan and includes a preface by Presiding Bishop Curry and articles in two languages and from a variety of diverse perspectives.

The articles in the issue include a study of social and environmental justice themes in the Bible by Colombian theologian Richard Acosta (published in English and Spanish); a political-economic examination of food security in the Biblical story of Joseph from Baptist minister and public health graduate student Darriel Harris; a critique of settler colonialism in society and in the church from First Nations priest and activist Rachel Taber Hamilton; the story of the radical Charis Community from cofounder Grace Aheron; a reflection on ecological grief and healing rituals in the diocese of New Hampshire from Bishop Rob Hirschfeld and Stephen Blackmer; insights from years of preaching on climate change from Margaret Bullitt-Jonas; and book reviews by Shadreck Kwagwanji, Allen Doyle, Perry Hodgkins Jones, and Andrew Sloane. The issue is scheduled for release in Spring 2021.

Networking and Grants Working Group

As part of its mandate under General Convention Resolution A013, the Task Force on Care of Creation and Environmental Racism was tasked with administering a small-grants program to facilitate care of creation ministries and eco-justice projects on local and regional levels and to develop a network of such ministries. As of this writing, one granting cycle has been completed, and a second is underway.

The first cycle was launched in the fall of 2019, and grants were awarded in early 2020. During this cycle, grants were solicited in two categories: Seed Grants (awards up to \$5000) and Impact Grants (awards up to \$20,000). Over 54 grant proposals were received representing over \$680,000 in funds requested. After an extensive review process 18 Seed Grants were funded, for a total of \$86,824.00, and 8 Impact Grants were funded, for a total of \$93,000.00 The overall total granted in the first

round was \$179,824.00. Projects ranged from small church based efforts to engage the local community in gardening and food justice projects, to larger projects re-envisioning use of land for green burials and native plant restoration.

The second cycle was launched in February 2021. For this second cycle, the Task Force is soliciting proposals for Impact Grant ranging from \$15,000 to \$40,000, with the expectation of funding ten or fewer projects from an available total of \$170,000. Grants will be awarded to long-term, collaborative projects that respond to issues of environmental racism and ecojustice by engaging in advocacy, civic engagement and developing climate resiliency. In this cycle, the Task Force will provide resources for faith-based community organizing and theological reflection and response concerning the sin of environmental racism, and for reconciliation informed by the concept of environmental reparations. Priority will be given to efforts which are supported and led by youth and young adults, communities of color and indigenous peoples. Grants will be awarded in April of 2021.

This small grants project is a means not only of supporting innovative creation care ministries, but also of the essential task of building a broad network of individuals, congregations, communities, and dioceses involved in such ministries. After multiple grant cycles in this triennium and the previous one, the Task Force has been able to compile a list of ministries that will form the foundation for an initial stage of formal network building, to be maintained in part by a monthly creation care newsletter.

Offset Project

General Convention Resolution 2018-A014 called for the development of a proposal for a Carbon offset program for The Episcopal Church, with provision for a future program for the dioceses and parishes of the broader church.

Carbon offsetting is a process whereby individuals and organizations can, in a sense, reduce their net carbon impact. In the context of the current crisis, it is absolutely essential that everything possible be done to actually reduce greenhouse gas emissions by such measures as reducing air travel and using renewable sources of energy. In our participation in God's mission, however, not all emissions are avoidable, and air travel in particular represents a large source of greenhouse gas emissions in the work of the church. In this situation, offsetting can be a way to balance such unavoidable emissions by purchasing a matching quantity of "negative emissions"; that is, by financially supporting projects that remove carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses from the atmosphere (such as tree-planting, or "carbon forestry") or reduce emissions in other areas (such as providing more efficient cookstoves). In order to be effective, offset programs require significant monitoring and accountability to ensure that the net total of emissions is actually being reduced. For example, program supervisors would need to verify that the negative emissions being purchased are actually occurring and would not be occurring without the purchase of offsets (this characteristic is referred to as "additionality"), and that they are permanent.

The Task Force for the Care of Creation and Environmental Racism (TFCCER) developed a proposal for the use of carbon offsetting for the church's unavoidable greenhouse gas emissions, particularly those from air travel. This proposal involved a multifaceted approach combining combining four potential sources of offsets: (1) Episcopal Relief and Development's carbon forestry and rice cultivation projects in the Philippines; (2) The University of the South's (Sewanee's) carbon forestry and coffee farming project in Haiti; (3) a domestic carbon forestry initiative to be developed; (4) third-party offset agencies, such as CoolEffect. By drawing on existing Episcopal Church programs and relationships, these options maximize opportunities for true accountability, education, and communion.

In order to establish an effective carbon offset program in fulfillment of 2018-A014, TFCCER recommended the allocation of \$25,000. Of this amount, \$15,000 was to be budgeted to cover wages and benefits for a part-time Offset Specialist. This individual would work to design and implement a comprehensive offset program, based on extensive research already done, combining the four options described above. In order to implement this program, the Offset Specialist would also need to track offset payments from DFMS personnel and offices, monitor offset projects, and provide reports to the Task Force. Finally, the Offset Specialist, in collaboration with the Task Force, would design and implement a communication strategy to educate church personnel on the importance of carbon offsetting as a theological practice. The remainder of the funding, \$10,000, would have been budgeted for implementing the anticipated communication strategy through virtual and printed information and expenses for meetings and speaking opportunities.

In addition to the budgeted amount of \$25,000 for program implementation, a program to offset travel emissions would require TEC to set aside funds to offset approximately 3500 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) per year. While offset prices vary significantly, a rate of \$20/ton CO₂e is recommended for a combination of the four sources mentioned above.

Unfortunately, the Coronavirus pandemic and resulting financial limitations in early 2020 prevented the implementation of this proposal.

Proposed resolutions

Ao86 Continuing the Task Force for Care of Creation and Environmental Racism

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the General Convention affirm the Presiding Bishop's and the President of the House of Deputies' continued call to the Church to recognize Care of Creation and Environmental Justice as integral and ongoing parts of the Church's loving, liberating, and life-giving work; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention commend the good work done by the Task Force for Care of Creation and Environmental Racism in the triennium following the 2018 General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention authorize a Task Force for Care of Creation and Environmental Racism to continue this work on behalf of the Episcopal Church in the next triennium; and be it further

Resolved, That this Task Force of up to 20 persons be appointed jointly by the President of the House of Deputies and the Presiding Bishop, with members to include a geographically diverse representation from the Church mindful to include younger generations, persons of color and Native persons who are and will be disproportionately affected by climate change; and be it further

Resolved, That this Task Force submit a report to the 81st General Convention; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention direct this Task Force to make as a priority the development and support of programs that respond to eco-justice concerns, address systemic environmental racism, and work to alleviate environmental burdens on indigenous communities. Ensure that programs can be modeled across the provinces of the Episcopal Church; and to provide training and financial and other resources to facilitate these projects; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention directs the Task Force to further expand, support and promote the Creation Care Covenant recognizing that this work seeks to align with the loving, liberating and life giving work of evangelism and beloved community.

Resolved, that the General Convention direct the Task Force to continue its work on developing theological resources and materials on a range of environmental topics including but not limited to the sin of environmental racism, an exploration of environmental reparations and the ethical and moral implications of responding to climate change: and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention direct this Task Force to continue the work of the previous Advisory Council (GC 2015) and Task Force (GC 2018) to implement the carbon offset program, support the efforts for just transition, increase and utilize the capabilities of the Episcopal Asset Map to support and respond to environmental injustices and to establish the network of asset-

based programs; to continue to work within the partnerships established in the previous triennium with environmental justice organizations nationwide; and to continue the grants program in order to accomplish the above objectives; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$850,000 during the triennium for the work outlined above.

A087 Net Carbon Neutrality by 2030

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the Episcopal Church commit to a goal of net carbon neutrality in its operations and the work of staff, standing commissions, interim bodies, and General Convention by 2030, through a combination of reducing emissions from travel, reducing energy use, increasing energy efficiency in buildings, and purchasing offsets from duly investigated, responsible, and ethical partners; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention direct the Presiding Bishop's staff to take concrete actions to reduce fossil fuel emissions from travel by said groups, such as through online meetings or regional gatherings; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention direct the Presiding Bishop's staff to draft a policy to offset one hundred percent of fossil fuel emissions from unavoidable travel by said groups, either through an internal offset program or through purchase from duly investigated, responsible, and ethical partners, with appropriate accountability and oversight; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$70,000 per year for the implementation of this resolution, taken from existing travel budgets, in order to offset approximately 3500 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (the average annual travel emissions of said groups from previous years) at a rate of \$20 per ton; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention direct the Presiding Bishop's staff to establish an internal offset program including such activities as carbon forestry and regenerative agriculture, with appropriate oversight to ensure that the program meet the five commonly accepted traits of responsible offset programs: real, permanent, verifiable, additional, and enforceable; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$25,000 to establish this internal offset program, comprising \$15,000 to cover wages and benefits for a part-time Offset Specialist and \$10,000 for implementation and promotion of the program; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention encourage parishes, dioceses, schools, camps, and other Episcopal institutions to pursue their own goal of net carbon neutrality by 2030 through a combination of reducing emissions from travel, reducing energy use, increasing energy efficiency in buildings, and purchasing offsets from duly investigated, responsible, and ethical partners; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention direct the Presiding Bishop's staff to develop and share resources for parishes and dioceses to commit to and work toward this goal, such as the online carbon tracker already created by the Diocese of California, as well as other online and print resources; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$50,000 to fund the development and promotion of these resources.

A088 Commit to the Pressing Work of Addressing Global Climate Change and Environmental Justice

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the 80th General Convention recognize as the Episcopal Church's position that global climate change is not only a scientific concern or environmental issue, but what the United Nations calls "the defining issue of our time... at a defining moment" (UN Secretary General, September 10, 2018), an all-encompassing social crisis and moral emergency that impacts and interconnects every aspect of pastoral concern including health, poverty, employment, racism, social justice, and family life and that can only be addressed by a Great Work involving every sector of society, including the Church; and affirm the commitment of the 79th General Convention to the House of Bishops' 2011 Pastoral Teaching on the Environment as an official position of the church; and be it further

Resolved, That the Church recommit to the work done by previous General Conventions of The Episcopal Church on the pressing moral dimensions of global climate change and environmental justice, including resolutions 2000-D005, 2012-B023, 2015-C013, 2015-C045, 2018-A011, 2018-A018, 2018-A020, 2018-B027, 2018-C020, 2018-C021, and 2018-C064; and that General Convention reaffirm that the Episcopal Church shall support and advocate for policies, programs, pastoral responses, and theologies that work to ensure no community - especially financially impoverished communities, frontline residents, migrants, and BIPOC communities (Black, indigenous, and people of color) - shall bear a disproportionate impact of the environmental, health, and economic threats of climate change; and be it further

Resolved, That General Convention affirm the decision of the United States federal government to rejoin the Paris Climate Accord, while recognizing that the goals set forth in the Paris Accord are only a first step, insufficient in and of themselves to fully contain rising global temperatures and their impacts; and that General Convention direct the Presiding Bishop's staff to continue, through our ongoing role as observers at the United Nations, to participate in all meetings of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change during the next triennium via delegations selected from an applicant pool and made up primarily of Episcopalians from financially impoverished communities, frontline locations, and BIPOC communities; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$20,000 per triennium to support costs associated with travel to the COP conferences by delegation members who are not members of the Presiding Bishop's staff; and be it further

Resolved, That the Episcopal Church direct the Office of Government Relations and the Episcopal Public Policy Network to advocate for legislation and other public policies that directly address the impact of climate change among marginalized, indigenous, and frontline communities and that tangibly and financially assist those communities with the costs of both climate change and mitigation, and policies that prohibit the authorization and construction of new fossil fuel infrastructure including but not limited to coal, oil, or gas leases on public lands, all forms of mountaintop removal mining, and tar sands pipelines such as Keystone XL, Enbridge Line #3, and the Dakota Access Pipeline; and be it further

Resolved, That General Convention encourage all Church communities, especially parishes, dioceses, camps, conference centers, schools, and chaplaincies, to learn more about the pressing moral implications of climate change in their regions and existing local organizing efforts, then advocate for policies and solutions to address those local needs utilizing and adapting advocacy resources from General Convention and the Presiding Bishop's staff including the Episcopal Public Policy Network, asset map, carbon tracker, liturgical resources, and advocating at the local and state level, and incorporating local nature, environmental justice, and advocacy for creation care into all aspects of community life and Christian education.

A089 Resolution on Divestment & Just Transition

Resolved, the House of _____ concurring, That the General Convention, affirming resolution 2015-C045 and 2018-D081, direct the Episcopal Church and urge the Church Pension Fund to continue to divest all funds from fossil fuel companies and mutual funds including fossil fuel companies, including but not limited to natural gas, oil, coal, and fracking, by 2025 and that these divested funds be reinvested in renewable energy funds and that no fossil fuels funds be purchased in the future, and be it further

Resolved, that dioceses and congregations continue to explore the moral and ethical benefits of divesting from fossil fuel and reinvesting in renewable energy and support their fund managers to act on divestment and reinvestment and be it further.

Resolved, that the General Convention, also affirming resolution 2018-D081 and recognizing that many of our communities and congregations have been grown and sustained by fossil fuel industries, urge a pastoral and practical approach to just transition to new economies, and direct the Episcopal Church staff to form partnerships with existing just transition organizations to support our dioceses and congregations; and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$35,000 during the triennium to facilitate this collaborative work around just transition, and be it further

Resolved, that the General Convention direct the Office of Governmental Relations to advocate for and support public policies that support a just transition for fossil fuel dependent communities.

Continuance recommendation

See Resolution [A086](#) which would continue this task force.