



The Episcopal Church in Delaware

all things in love – 1 Cor. 16:14

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE 239TH ANNUAL CONVENTION

RESOLUTION #238-01

Date/Time	September 8, 2022, 9:00 p.m.
Title of Resolution	To give Voice and Vote to Clergy licensed and appointed as priest or deacon in charge of congregations or exercising a ministry by Diocesan appointment in the Diocese of Delaware, but not canonically resident in the Diocese.
Submitted by	Mark Harris
Submitted on behalf of	The Rev. Canon Mark Harris The Rev. Jeffrey Ross The Rev. Shelley McDade Anne Canan, Lay Delegate, St. Peter's, Lewes John Michael Sophos, Lay Delegate, St. Peter's, Lewes
Authorized representative to respond to questions, at convention, concerning this resolution	Mark Harris
RESOLVED	<p>Whereas there are in the Diocese of Delaware clergy not canonically resident in the Diocese of Delaware serving in various parishes with responsibility for the pastoral and sacramental ministry with and to those congregations, or exercising ministry by Diocesan appointment, and</p> <p>Whereas those clergy are under existing canons or through action by each Diocesan Convention given voice but not vote in Conventions of the Diocese, and</p> <p>Whereas these clergy, licensed in the Diocese of Delaware, active in the life of this Diocese, and providing spiritual and sacramental leadership as priests or deacons in charge of a parish, or in appointed ministries, are a source of wisdom and strength to the life of the Diocese, and</p>

Whereas congregations ought to be represented at Diocesan Convention by both clergy and lay representatives,

BE IT RESOLVED, that this 238th. Convention of the Diocese of Delaware amend and change Article IV, Section 2, of the Constitution of the Diocese as follows, such amendment to take effect immediately upon its passage at the 239th. Convention.

“Article IV, Section 2

Every Bishop, Priest or Deacon of the Protestant Episcopal Church who is canonically resident in this Diocese, and every clergy person not canonically resident but licensed by the bishop and exercising an appointed ministry in the Diocese, shall have a seat in Convention.

Every Bishop, Priest or Deacon of the Protestant Episcopal Church who is canonically resident in this Diocese and (a) holds a cure or office in this Diocese, (b) who shall have resigned a cure or office on account of age or physical incapacity, or (c) who holds neither a cure nor an office in this Diocese nor has resigned a cure or office on account of age or physical incapacity but is in good standing and has reported, in writing, to the Bishop each January or (d) whose ecclesiastical duty, for which the approval and the certification by the Ecclesiastical Authority are necessary, requires residence outside the jurisdiction of this Diocese (including, but not limited to, a chaplain in the Armed Forces of the United States), shall have a vote in Convention.

Every clergy person not canonically resident but licensed and exercising a ministry in the Diocese as clergy in charge of a congregation in union with the Convention of this Diocese, or in a ministry with Diocesan appointment, shall have a vote in Convention except when the Diocesan Convention is voting on the election of a bishop to serve in this Diocese.“

EXPLANATION OF
RESOLUTION

This Constitutional Change requires two successive affirmative Convention votes, the second without additional amendments. Hopefully this resolution speaks to the issues concerning voting by clergy in ministry in Delaware but not canonically resident.

As the resolution states, there are a significant number of clergy serving in pastoral and sacramental ministries, under license and appointment from the Diocese, who are not canonically resident. These clergy contribute greatly to the health of the diocese, and to the congregations where they serve. It seems right and just that they should have vote as well as voice in our deliberations in Diocesan Convention.

A number of dioceses have extended the vote in convention to clergy not canonically resident. They have done so for many of the same reasons it should be considered here: several parishes rely for pastoral and sacramental ministry on clergy not canonically resident. The use of trained interim pastors not members of the Diocese, clergy retired in other dioceses but now residing in or near the Diocese and who cannot or ought not change their canonical residency because of retirement needs, and the services clergy in adjacent Dioceses to a ministry for a temporary period in the Diocese. In such cases the congregations they serve are underrepresented in Diocesan Convention because these clergy cannot vote. This resolution proposes to give these clergy the vote in all cases save the election of a Bishop.

The Canons of the Episcopal Church do not preclude such a change, and the dioceses that have instituted this change have not been challenged. This proposed change is deliberately limited in scope: it applies only to clergy not canonically resident who have an appointment by the Diocese to a ministry in the Diocese. It does not apply to non-resident clergy who do supply work in the Diocese, or to assisting non-resident clergy in congregations where they may be given responsibilities under the guidance of the Rector or Priest in Charge. It does not apply to voting for a Bishop. The proposers believe that it is those who are, by canon, under the continuing authority of the bishop of this Diocese who should make that decision.

	<p>In the Diocesan Canons the clergy of canonical residence are named before convention, so there is no question as to who they are. The determination of additional clergy qualified to vote at convention under this canon then compares the list of clergy appointed in charge of congregations or with diocesan appointment with the list of canonical residential clergy. Those who are not residential but do have charges or appointments are the subject of this amendment and are added to the voting roles.</p>
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RESOLUTION #239-01

Date/Time	November 18, 2023, 4:20 p.m
Title of Resolution	A resolution on solidarity with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem
Submitted by	William Lane
Submitted on behalf of	The Reverend Canon Lloyd Casson The Very Reverend William Lane
Authorized representative to respond to questions, at convention, concerning this resolution	William Lane
RESOLVED	<p>Whereas over a month ago, Hamas launched an attack across the border from Gaza into Israel. This attack resulted in the slaying of men, women, and children and the taking of hostages - Israeli Jewish citizens as well as visitors from elsewhere, including the United States.</p> <p>Whereas in response to this, the State of Israel has launched an attack on Gaza. The rationale for this attack is to punish and eradicate Hamas. The awful consequence of this is the death of Palestinians of all ages and the destruction of hospitals, homes, schools, and the basic services of water and electricity.</p> <p>Whereas there is real and present danger of hostilities spreading to the occupied West Bank of Palestine.</p> <p>Whereas the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is our presence in Gaza and the West Bank.</p>

Whereas the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is home to about 7,000 Anglicans worshipping in 28 congregations.

Whereas the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is responsible for over 30 institutions including schools, rehabilitation centers, centers for pilgrimages, and hospitals including Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza.

Whereas many of us in the Episcopal Church in Delaware have experienced the hospitality of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and witnessed its ministry as pilgrims at Saint George's College.

BE IT RESOLVED, that this 239th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Delaware sends the following message:

"To Archbishop Hosam and the clergy and laity of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem from the Episcopal Church in Delaware: Grace and Peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We stand in solidarity with you in this time of tragedy for the peoples of Palestine/Israel.

To you our brothers and sisters in Christ, we pledge our prayers. And with these prayers, our commitment to support the vital ministries of the Episcopal Church in the Holy Land during this time of war. We will also continue to work and advocate for a just peace in Palestine/Israel, one that respects the dignity of every human being.

With thankfulness for your ministry in the land of the Holy One, we are your companions on the Way. May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you always."

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this 239th Convention of the Episcopal Church in Delaware requests the Diocesan Council and the Trustees make a generous donation to support the mission and ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem.

EXPLANATION OF RESOLUTION	A message of assurance to our sisters and brothers in the Holy Land that they are not forgotten, they are not alone
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