



Proposed Resolutions

2024 Diocesan Convention

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina (“the Diocese”)

Adoption of the Resolutions passed by the 2023 Convention

R-1 Amending the Constitution to Reflect the Change in the Legal Name of the Diocese

(A Second Vote of Convention)

Whereas this Diocese has changed its legal and operating name to reflect its ongoing identity as a historic diocese in the ACNA and the larger Anglican Communion, therefore be it

Resolved by the 2023 Diocesan Convention that the language of the Diocesan Constitution be amended to reflect this change in our legal names, and be it further

Resolved that the Constitution is hereby amended to read as shown on the redline and strikethrough copy of the Constitution provided to Convention delegates.

[Note: Article X of the Constitution of the Diocese requires all such changes to the Constitution be adopted by a majority vote of this Convention and a 2/3rds majority vote of a successive Convention. The details of the proposed changes were provided in the convention packets provided to the deputies in advance of Convention.]

R-2 Amending the Constitution to provide that the Standing Committee is the Board of Directors of the Diocese.

(A Second Vote of Convention)

Whereas, in 1973 the Diocese incorporated as a non-profit corporation under the laws of the State of South Carolina; and

Whereas, the laws of South Carolina require that a non-profit corporation have a board of directors which shall have authority over all corporate powers of the corporation, and that such powers may be delegated; and

Whereas, the Standing Committee of the Diocese serves as the Board of Directors of the Diocese, as previously resolved in Standing Resolution #15, but the Constitution of the Diocese has not so expressly stated;

Therefore, Article VIII of the Constitution shall be amended to insert the following section, with the remainder of the Article renumbered accordingly:

“Section 3. The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina is incorporated as a nonprofit corporation in accordance with the South Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act. The Standing Committee is the Board of Directors of the corporation. No member of the Standing Committee may be removed,

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- Recommended by the *Standing Committee* (2-07-23)
 - Approved as corrected and recommend by *Constitution and Canons Committee* (2-28-23)

replaced, or a vacancy filled except by compliance with the South Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act, the Bylaws of the Diocese, and the Constitution of the Diocese.”

Therefore, be it further resolved that the Constitution is hereby amended to read as shown on the redline and strikethrough copy of the Constitution provided to Convention delegates.

R-3 Amending the References to the Treasurer in Article V of the Constitution

(A Second Vote of Convention)

Whereas, the current references to the treasurer of the diocese in Article V all refer exclusively, with one initial exception, to the Treasurer as “he”, and

Whereas, this diocese intends no such gender restriction upon who may serve as Treasurer, therefore be it

Resolved that the language of the Article V be amended throughout to replace all references to the office as simply “Treasurer”, and be it further

Resolved that the Constitution is hereby amended to read as shown on the redline and strikethrough copy of the Constitution provided to Convention delegates.

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- Recommended by the *Standing Committee* (2-07-23)
 - Approved as corrected and recommend by *Constitution and Canons Committee* (2-28-23)

Canonical Edits to Revise Diocesan Canons to include Gender Neutral Language

Whereas women, both lay and ordained, play an essential role in the leadership and ministry of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, and

Whereas some of the language in the Diocesan Canons is exclusively masculine,

Therefore, the following changes to gender neutral language for the Diocesan Canons are proposed. This Convention moves the following changes:

- Those references to “clergymen” in the **Canons** shall be changed to “clergy”.
- As grammatically appropriate, references to clergy as “he”, “his” or “him” (other than the Bishop) shall be changed to “they”, “them” or “their” or sentences shall be grammatically revised to avoid singular pronouns.
- To the term clergy “widow” will be added the term “widower” (XVII.4).
- The term “chairman” shall be changed to “chairperson” (XVIII.7, XIX.1.4 and XXII.1).
- The term “clergyman” shall be changed to the expression “one member of the clergy” (XXI.6).
- The term “laymen” shall be changed to “layperson” (XXIII.1)
- Certain revisions have been made to Canon XXIX to avoid reference to male only pronouns, except where referring to the Bishop.
- The terms “himself or herself” shall be changed to “themselves” or the sentence has been revised to avoid pronouns (XXXI.6 and 7).
- The term “Mr.” shall be changed to “nominee” (XXXI.6)

All such changes, with corresponding necessary grammatical adjustments are reflected in the full redline edits provided to the Deputies to Convention.

These proposals for amendments are submitted, with the approval of the Standing Committee, by the Task Force appointed by the Standing Committee to identify and recommend the necessary changes.

Task Force Members

The Rev. Marshall Huey, Chair

The Rev. Mary Ellen Doran

The Rev. Luke Deman

The Rev. Louise Weld

[Note: Canon XXXVI of the Diocese requires all such changes to the Canons be adopted by a 2/3rds vote of the Convention, by orders. The details of the proposed changes were provided in the convention packets provided to the deputies in advance of Convention.]

Constitutional Edits to Revise Diocesan Constitution to include Gender Neutral Language

Whereas women, both lay and ordained, play an essential role in the leadership and ministry of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, and

Whereas some of the language in the Diocesan Canons is exclusively masculine,

Therefore, the following changes to gender neutral language for the Diocesan Constitution are proposed. This Convention moves the following changes:

- Those references to “clergymen” in the Constitution shall be changed to “clergy” (Art. II.1 and VI.1)
- As grammatically appropriate, all references to clergy as “he”, “his” or “him” (other than the Bishop) shall be changed to “they”, “them” or “their”. Where appropriate grammatical revisions shall be made to the applicable sentences where such pronoun changes are made.
- The term “clergyman” shall be changed to the expression “member of the clergy” (Art. I.2 and I.3, Art. II.2 and II.6, and Art. IX).
- The term “vestrymen” shall be changed to “vestry” (Art. 6.1.9.2.c).

All such changes, with corresponding necessary grammatical adjustments are reflected in the full redline edits provided to the Deputies to Convention.

These proposals for amendments are submitted, with the approval of the Standing Committee, by the Task Force appointed by the Standing Committee to identify and recommend the necessary changes.

Task Force Members

The Rev. Marshall Huey, Chair

The Rev. Mary Ellen Doran

The Rev. Luke Deman

The Rev. Louise Weld

[Note: Article X of the Constitution of the Diocese requires all such changes to the Constitution be adopted by a majority vote of this Convention and a 2/3rds majority vote of a successive Convention. The details of the proposed changes were provided in the convention packets provided to the deputies in advance of Convention.]

Standing Resolution Edits to Revise Diocesan Standing Resolutions to include Gender Neutral Language

Whereas women, both lay and ordained, play an essential role in the leadership and ministry of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina, and

Whereas some of the language in the Diocesan Canons is exclusively masculine,

Therefore, the following changes to gender neutral language for the Diocesan Canons are proposed. This Convention moves the following changes:

- The references to “clergyman” in the **Standing Resolutions** shall be changed to “member of the clergy.” (S.R. 1)
- The reference to clergy as “his record” shall be changed to “any clergy” and “their record.” (S.R. 1).
- The expression “clergymen and laymen” shall be changed to the expression “clergy and laity” (S.R. 2).
- The reference to the “Porter Gaud Academy” shall be changed to “Porter-Gaud School” (S.R. 10).

All such changes, with corresponding necessary grammatical adjustments are reflected in the full redline edits provided to the Deputies to Convention.

These proposals for amendments are submitted, with the approval of the Standing Committee, by the Task Force appointed by the Standing Committee to identify and recommend the necessary changes.

Task Force Members

The Rev. Marshall Huey, Chair

The Rev. Mary Ellen Doran

The Rev. Luke Deman

The Rev. Louise Weld

[Note: Standing Resolutions of the Diocese may be amended or removed by a 2/3rd vote of the Convention (Canon XXXI, Rule 25).]

Convention Resolution: Prevention of Sexual Misconduct in the Diocese

Whereas the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina is committed to preventing harm to all the children and youth in the ministry and care of our congregations,

Whereas the Standing Committee of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina committed in 2022 to the review and amendment of our Diocesan Policy Manual for the prevention of the abuse of children and youth in the congregations and ministries of the Diocese, and

Whereas the Safe Church Task Force appointed for this task by the Standing Committee has completed the work of review and revision of those policies to better address current church and cultural realities, and

Whereas the Standing Committee has approved the ADOSC CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY MANUAL ("Policy Manual") recommended by the Safe Church Task Force, and

Whereas a substantial revision to Diocesan Canon XXXV, as set forth below, is appropriate and necessary in light of the approval of the Policy Manual by the Standing Committee,

Now therefore, the 2024 Diocesan Convention of the Anglican Diocese of South Carolina adopts the following revisions to Canon XXXV of the Diocese by replacing the existing Canon XXXV with the following:

CANON XXXV

Prevention of Sexual Misconduct Within the Diocese

Section 1. Policy on Sexual Relations. The Diocese and the congregations and missions thereof affirm that Holy Matrimony is the context for sexual relations. "Holy Matrimony" or marriage shall have only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture. Clergy shall not bless same-gender relationships as Holy Matrimony and they shall not condone same-gender sexual relationships by any official act. Sexual relations outside marriage shall be deemed to be a failure to set a wholesome example to other members of the church.

Section 2. Diocesan Child and Youth Protection Policy. It is the Policy of the ADOSC that the Diocese will not tolerate any form of abuse of children or youth involving clergy, lay staff, members, volunteers or other persons. Everyone who serves the church through educational, pastoral, recreational or other activities is expected to maintain the highest biblical standards in relationships with those to whom they minister, avoiding any form of misconduct. That commitment extends to sexual, physical and emotional behavior. Compliance with the Policy is mandatory for ADOSC churches. The Diocese will proactively implement procedures to train, communicate and respond to incidents of abuse.

Section 3. Child and Youth Protection Policy Manual.

(1). The Diocese, through its Standing Committee, shall adopt a Diocesan Child and Youth Protection Policy Manual ("Manual"), which shall contain written procedures and guidelines for the implementation of the Diocesan Child and Youth Protection Policy. This Manual may be revised or amended from time to time by the Standing Committee of the Diocese; however, it shall include, as a

minimum: processes for protecting children and youth through the screening and training of clergy, staff, and volunteers; best practices for interacting with children and youth; best practices for monitoring and supervising children and youth activities; and procedures for responding to and reporting child abuse or neglect. The standards and procedures set forth in the Manual shall be followed by each Parish or Mission as long as it is in union with the Diocesan Convention of the Diocese.

(2). Within six months of employment (and before beginning work with children or youth) clergy, volunteers who regularly supervise youth activities (excluding unpaid Sunday School teachers), and lay employees working for the Diocese, or Parishes and Missions in union with the Diocesan Convention of the Diocese, must complete Diocesan approved training on issues of child and youth sexual abuse and prevention in church settings.

(3). Each Parish vestry and Mission council shall by formal motion adopt the Manual and shall certify in writing to the Diocesan Headquarters that it has done so. Annual certification of compliance with the policies set forth in this Canon XXXV is required as well. No votes at the Diocesan Convention of this Diocese shall be received from any Parish or Mission which has failed to comply with the requirements of this Canon. Failure to comply for more than two (2) years shall be grounds for the Bishop or Ecclesiastical Authority to declare a Parish or Mission no longer to be in union with the Diocesan Convention.

Section 4. Sexual Misconduct Prohibited. The Diocese strictly prohibits Sexual Misconduct by any priest, deacon, aspirant, postulant or seminarian sponsored by or working in this Diocese and by any lay employee or volunteer working in any capacity for the Diocese or any Parish or Mission in union with the Diocesan Convention of the Diocese. All incidents of suspected Sexual Abuse shall be reported to relevant law enforcement authorities in conformity with applicable law. Clergy, lay employees working for the Diocese, or Parishes and Missions in union with the Diocesan Convention of the Diocese, must complete Diocesan approved training on issues of sexual Harassment in employment, mentor and colleague relationships, and sexual Exploitation in Pastoral Relationships. Clergy, lay employees, and volunteers working for the Diocese, or Parishes and Missions in union with the Diocesan Convention of the Diocese, shall provide a Covenant for Sexual Responsibility on a form approved by the Diocese. The Diocese will set appropriate standards for long term counseling by parish clergy and expectations for necessary licensing and insurance.

For purposes of this Canon XXXV and elsewhere in the Canons of the Diocese, the term “**Sexual Misconduct**” shall mean any of the following:

Abuse

Sexual abuse or sexual molestation of any person, including but not limited to, any sexual involvement, sexual activity, or sexual contact with a person who is a minor or who is legally incompetent.

Harassment

In a situation where there is an employment, mentor or colleague relationship between the persons involved, including but not limited to, sexually-oriented humor or language; questions or comments about sexual behavior unrelated to employment qualifications; undesired physical contact; inappropriate comments about clothing or physical appearance, or repeated requests for social engagements. Agreement with or affirmance of the Policy on Sexual Relations, as set forth in Section 1 above, by word conduct, or otherwise shall not constitute Harassment or Sexual Misconduct.

Exploitation

Including but not limited to the development, or the attempted development, of a sexual or romantic relationship between a cleric, employee or volunteer and a person with whom he/she has a Pastoral Relationship or fiduciary relationship, whether or not there is apparent consent from the individual.

For purposes of this Canon XXXV and elsewhere in the Canons of the Diocese, the term “**Pastoral Relationship**” shall mean a relationship between a cleric, employee, or volunteer and any person to whom such cleric, employee, or volunteer provides pastoral counseling, pastoral care, spiritual direction, or spiritual guidance or from whom such cleric, employee, or volunteer has received confession or confidential or privileged information.

This resolution is approved by the Standing Committee, on the basis of work done by its Safe Church Task Force. Task Force members responsible for the manual review process and proposal of the Canon changes are:

Mr. Ben Hagood, Chancellor

Mr. Whit McGreevy, Assistant Chancellor

The Rt. Rev. Charles F. Edgar

The Rev. Canon Laura Bowman, Canon for Safe Churches

The Rev. Mary Ellen Doran

The Rev. Rob Sturdy

The Rev. Canon Jim Lewis



Proposed Resolutions

2024 Diocesan Convention

The Anglican Diocese of South Carolina (“the Diocese”)

R-8 Amending the Canons Regarding the Definition of Bishops Serving in this Diocese

Whereas this Diocese may in the future have the need to elect a Suffragan Bishop, or to hire an Assistant Bishop to support the work of the Diocesan, and

Whereas the current canons do not address either the nature of such positions, nor the grounds for such an election or appointment, therefore be it:

Resolved by the 2024 Diocesan Convention that the language in the current Rule 21 of Canon XXXI be amended as follows to remove the office of Assistant Bishop from the process for episcopal election by Convention.

Rule 21. At any convention called for the purpose of electing a Bishop diocesan, Coadjutor, or Suffragan ~~or Assistant~~, the process of nomination shall be as follows:

Be it Further Resolved by the 2024 Diocesan Convention that the following definitions be added to Canon XXXVIII to define the role, election or hiring of other Bishops for ministry in support of the Diocesan Bishop.

Bishops in this Diocese-

“Diocesan Bishop” means a Bishop elected by Convention to serve as the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese (Canon XXXVII) and also otherwise known as the Bishop Ordinary of the Diocese.

“Coadjutor Bishop” means a Bishop elected by Diocesan Convention who will automatically succeed as Diocesan Bishop at the death, retirement, or resignation of the Diocesan Bishop. He serves under the authority of the Diocesan Bishop.

Suffragan Bishop means a Bishop elected by the Convention to support the ministry of the Diocesan Bishop in such fashion as the Diocesan Bishop may direct. The candidate(s) for the office of Suffragan Bishop shall be nominated by the Diocesan Bishop, in consultation with and approval by the Standing Committee.

An Assistant Bishop may be appointed by the Diocesan Bishop, in consultation with and approval of the Standing Committee. An Assistant Bishop must be a member of the College of Bishops of the Anglican Church in North America.