

## Resolution 1

*Submitted by the Standing Committee*

WHEREAS the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan remains in transition after the resignation of the Rt. Rev. Todd Ousley, second bishop-diocesan of Eastern Michigan,

BE IT RESOLVED that this 24<sup>th</sup> Convention asks the Standing Committee to begin the search process for the election of the third bishop-diocesan of Eastern Michigan.

### Rationale

This resolution offers Eastern Michigan the opportunity to reexamine our priorities and to develop a profile to elect a bishop in the traditional manner, understanding that owning, understanding, and addressing issues of our long-term sustainability are asked of both the new bishop and the people of Eastern Michigan.

## Resolution 2

*Submitted by the Standing Committee*

WHEREAS the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan remains in transition after the resignation of the Rt. Rev. Todd Ousley, second bishop-diocesan of Eastern Michigan,

BE IT RESOLVED that this 24<sup>th</sup> Convention asks the Standing Committee to begin the search process for the election of a bishop-provisional, to serve a term of up to five years.

### Rationale

This resolution offers Eastern Michigan the leadership of an experienced bishop to help us claim our own gifts of ministry, to clarify concerns about long-term sustainability and whether or not we are to move toward electing our own bishop-diocesan, and to consider our current relationship with Western Michigan and ways God may be calling us to deepen our shared ministries.

## Resolution 3

*Submitted by the Standing Committee*

WHEREAS the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan remains in transition after the resignation of the Rt. Rev. Todd Ousley, second bishop-diocesan of Eastern Michigan,

BE IT RESOLVED that this 24<sup>th</sup> Convention asks the Standing Committee to nominate the Rt. Rev. Wayne Hougland, bishop-diocesan of Western Michigan, with the consent of the bishop and the leadership of Western Michigan, to be elected bishop-provisional of Eastern Michigan, to serve a term of up to five years.

## **Rationale**

This resolution offers Eastern Michigan the leadership of our neighboring bishop to help us claim our own gifts of ministry, to clarify jointly with Western Michigan, our concerns about long-term sustainability, to celebrate our shared ministries with Western Michigan, and to explore more formally ways God may be calling both dioceses to use our resources to grow the Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement within our borders.

## **Resolution 4**

*Submitted by Diocesan Council*

*Composed by the Rev. Sue Rich, Trinity Episcopal Church in Bay City*

WHEREAS the Deputies from the Diocese of Eastern Michigan to the 79th General Convention were inspired by themes of that Convention,

BE IT RESOLVED that this 24th Annual Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan encourages all constituent parishes and all individuals in each congregation to adopt a Rule of Life based on any appropriate model including, but not limited to, Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Way of Love.

## **Rational**

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, in his sermon at the opening Eucharist of the 79<sup>th</sup> General Convention of the Episcopal Church held in Austin, Texas in July 2018, spoke about calling together a group of people from across the church to explore with him how the church might move more deeply into being the Episcopal Branch of the Jesus Movement. After much prayer and discernment, the group suggested that the church call upon spiritual practices that for centuries have helped Christians draw closer to God. The Way of Love: Practices for Jesus-Centered Life is an adaptation of Monastic traditions and details seven practices of a Rule of Life.

The Deputation from Eastern Michigan join Bishop Curry in calling upon members of the Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Michigan to move more deeply into what it means to be a part of the Jesus Movement through embracing spiritual practices of a Rule of Life. We also believe that congregations will benefit from discerning how they might, as a congregation, adopt a Rule of Life, deepening the ways they live into being part of the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement.

**24th Diocesan Convention of the Diocese of Eastern Michigan**

Resolutions Committee Report

Submitted by the Rev. Charles Curtis & Amy Simons

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Details about and links for engaging The Way of Love, developing and following a rule of life, walking with others, the Jesus Movement, and more can be found by following this

link: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/explore-way-love>