A036

TOPIC: ECUMENISM

Further Dialogue with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

PROPOSER

Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations

ENDORSED BY

SPONSORED BY

PAGE NUMBER(S) FOR REFERENCE

Blue Book: p. 139; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A

HOUSE OF INITIAL ACTION / LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

HD / Ecumenical Relations

CURRENT FILING STATUS

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REVIEW STATUS (PB&F, CONSTITUTION, CANONS)

currently not in proposed budget; N/A; N/A

RESOLUTION TEXT

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, That the 77th General Convention give thanks for the full communion relationship between The Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, which celebrated its tenth anniversary in 2011, and be it further

Resolved, That we give thanks for the work of the Lutheran-Episcopal Coordinating Committee (LECC), and be it further

Resolved, That we continue to encourage the LECC to seek the Holy Spirit's guidance for new mission and ministry among our churches, and be it further

Resolved, That the LECC address the areas of our common life where our eccelsiological practices differ, especially lay presidency and our understandings of the role of deacons, and be it further

Resolved, That the LECC report to the Standing Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations, who will in turn report back to the 78th General Convention.

EXPLANATION

The document “Called to Common Mission,” which initiated full communion between The Episcopal Church and The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, left some issues unresolved, as evidenced by the interpretations put forth by the Conference of Bishops of the ELCA in August 1999 and the Mind of the House resolution passed by the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church on April 3, 2000. Resolution of these issues is beyond the purview of the Lutheran Episcopal Coordinating Committee, and these issues have the potential for undermining our full communion relationship if not discussed, explored, and resolved.