A068

TOPIC: LAY MINISTRY

Furthering the Ministry of all the Baptized

PROPOSER

Standing Commission on Ministry Development

ENDORSED BY

SPONSORED BY

PAGE NUMBER(S) FOR REFERENCE

Blue Book: p. 494–495; Constitution & Canons: p. N/A

HOUSE OF INITIAL ACTION / LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

HB / Ministry

CURRENT FILING STATUS

Filed

REVIEW STATUS (PB&F, CONSTITUTION, CANONS)

None required

RESOLUTION TEXT

Resolved, the House of Deputies concurring, that the 77th General Convention commend the use of *Liberating Ministry: A Resource for All the Baptized* to all provinces, dioceses and congregations to advance the empowerment of laity as full partners in ministry; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention direct that Office of Communications department of The Episcopal Church post *Liberating Ministry: A Resource for All the Baptized* in English and with appropriate translations on The Episcopal Church website to be readily accessible to all provinces, dioceses, congregations and individuals; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention direct the staff of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society to research and add resources to *Liberating Ministry: A Resource for All the Baptized,* including resources in appropriate languages; and be it further

Resolved, That the 77th General Convention direct that the Standing Commission on Ministry Development to annually monitor the updating of *Liberating Ministry: A Resource for All the Baptized*.

EXPLANATION

The 65th General Convention passed Resolution 1976-D005 entitled "Establish a Study Committee on Total Ministry." This committee's study was to include consideration of the possibility for certification of laity for specialized training and skills and, further, for the recognition of their accomplishment in ministry. During the ensuing 36 years, the Church's vision of the ministry of the laity has evolved from associating lay ministry solely with the worship functions of the Church, to a more complete understanding of the vocation of laity as lived out in the world. The Church continues to develop resources for all its ministers as we seek to live fully into the Baptismal Covenant.

The online availability of Liberating Ministry complements mandate to "(use) current technology and a vibrant, contemporary communications network." This strategy is a cost-effective method of distributing and sharing ministry resources. It also is a way to encourage and support collaboration among provinces, dioceses, congregations and individuals.