



# THE 201<sup>st</sup> CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MAINE

## Resolutions

### RESOLUTION 3 JUSTICE COMMISSION ENDORSEMENT

RE: Creation of Justice Commission

SUBMITTED BY: Justice Commission of the Diocese of Maine

CONTACT PERSON: Rev. Eleanor Prior, Chair, (518) 610-3190, eprior@cathedralofstluke.org

- 1 **RESOLVED** that the 201<sup>st</sup> Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Church in Maine recognize that many
- 2 Episcopalians find it challenging to understand or know how to respond to 21<sup>st</sup> century justice concerns;
- 3 and be it further
  
- 4 **RESOLVED** that the 201<sup>st</sup> Diocesan Convention affirms that the Gospel and our Baptismal Covenant
- 5 call individuals and churches to find more effective and productive ways to respond to injustice in Maine
- 6 as we love our neighbors as ourselves, respect the dignity of every human being, and transform unjust
- 7 structures of society; and be it further
  
- 8 **RESOLVED** that the 201<sup>st</sup> Diocesan Convention endorse the establishment of the Justice
- 9 Commission for the purpose of developing resources to support the ongoing ministry of the Maine
- 10 Episcopal Network for Justice, Committee on Indian Relations, Episcopal Peace Fellowship – Maine,
- 11 and the Racial Justice Council; and be it further
  
- 12 **RESOLVED** that this Justice Commission be appointed by the Bishop of Maine and that this
- 13 Commission report back quarterly to the Diocesan Council and to the Convention; and be it further
  
- 14 **RESOLVED** that the amount of \$7,500 is approved by Convention as an operating budget for 2021.

### EXPLANATION

*The Commission will be a vehicle for those groups already working on justice issues an opportunity to work together on occasion when their various missions intersect. It will raise the profile of EPF-ME and CIR to where they become more recognized for the good work they are doing and possibly expand their issue portfolios and participation by more people in the diocese.*

*The Commission will be better positioned to communicate with the diocese and offer more educational opportunities. The establishment of the Commission also allows flexibility for other groups, for example, people with a passion for Creation Care, Migration Ministry, LGBTQ Equality, etc. to form on either an ad hoc or permanent basis as the situation may warrant.*