

**50th Annual Meeting of the Convention of the
EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF SAN JOAQUIN
October 23-25, 2009
St. Paul's, Modesto, California**

Title: Formulating a Strategy for Lifelong Christian
Formation in the Next Triennium
Resolution No.: R-09-08
Sponsor: Karen Boone, Deputy, Diocese of San Joaquin
Required Vote: Simple Majority

RESOLVED, that this Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin strongly encourages the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin to formulate a strategy for Lifelong Christian Formation in the next triennium; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that such strategy should encompass and be suitable for all persons (e.g. various ages, languages and abilities). These strategies should be responsive to diocesan and societal contexts and accurately depict the current education and formation status. Because formation is not limited to a cognitive experience (classroom), formation should be holistic (encompasses learning, action and reflection); **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, in addition, such an endeavor will seek to gather the aspirations for future programs/activities in our Diocese concerning Christian formation; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that the information gathered from our Diocese be forwarded to the appropriate agency at the Episcopal Church Center.

EXPLANATION: This resolution is in response and support of the action of General Convention 2009 by the adoption of Resolution A083, “**Directive for Dioceses to Formulate a Strategy for Lifelong Christian Formation in the Next Triennium.**” Most importantly, formation is so crucial to our life as disciples that we must be more intentional about it.

As we prepare for a new decade, it is appropriate to survey and coordinate the church's resources. Our Diocese's participation in the survey will enable greater collaboration between dioceses, seminaries, diocesan schools, The Episcopal Church Center, camps, conference centers and educational programs. In this age of reduced financial resources, it is urgent that we exercise good stewardship and not duplicate our formational efforts.

Moreover, the church flourishes when we share our experiences and resources. This survey will enable us to do more programs, projects and activities together more effectively. The members and congregations of The Episcopal Church are active in mission and outreach in their communities as well as in the wider society and world. Our call to attention to Christian formation recognizes the role of outreach and mission. This survey of diocesan policies, practices and resources will include attention to these formational contexts for persons of all ages and thereby broaden the national Church's definition of formation.

FISCAL IMPACT: None to the diocese.