

Resolution 2

Green Congregation Program

Resolved, that the 152nd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota support congregations seeking to reduce their carbon footprint by establishing a “Green Episcopal Congregations in Minnesota” program. This program gives congregations resources to move toward more sustainable practices in a variety of areas (buildings and grounds; worship; education, community life; and outreach). These resources help congregations affirm the sacredness of God’s creation, spread hope about God’s reconciling work in creation and an understanding of environmental stewardship and ecological justice; and be it further

Resolved, that the 152nd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota direct the Environmental Stewardship Commission to develop and coordinate the program for the Diocese including working with congregations, and publicly recognizing the successes by congregations; and that it report its work to the 153rd and subsequent Diocesan Conventions.

EXPLANATION:

Congregations regularly seek resources to help them better care for creation. Our members and associates earnestly desire to be good stewards. But they are often overwhelmed with the number of issues, the pile of good suggestions to implement, and how to sift through the various claims of smaller “carbon footprint.” They want to have a good-faith process by which they can engage this timely issue.

The Minnesota Episcopal Environmental Stewardship Commission (MEESC) has been the organization that has been the go-to organization within the Diocese regarding environmental issues and concerns for the last fifteen years, and has generously offered their substantial expertise to a variety of congregations. They stand willing and able to administer this program.

Proposer: The Reverend Wanda Copeland/Minnesota Episcopal Environmental Stewardship Commission

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