Clerical Standing

Submitters: Faith & Order Commission

Resolved, that the Faith and Order Commission, in consultation with the Bishops, Commission on Ministry, Mission Council, and Standing Committee, report back to the 234th Annual Convention with a definition of “clergy in good standing” for all three orders of ordained ministry.

Explanation:
As we seek greater participation in God’s mission during this Post-Christendom era, we recognize the need for adaptive and creative ordained leadership in today’s Church. In order to facilitate continued excellence in the ordained leadership of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut, there needs to be clarity and accountability for all regarding what it means for a clergy person to be “in good standing,” especially acknowledging the reality of part-time and bi-vocational clergy and looking ahead to a future with even more novel forms of ordained ministry.

How does this resolution further God’s mission of restoration and reconciliation with all of creation?
This resolution will help us more faithfully live into the new and changing realities of ordained leadership in our modern world so that our ordained leaders are better able to take part in the church’s participation in mission.

Requirements to Implement
No additional resources, beyond the regular functioning of the Faith & Order Commission, Mission Council, and Standing Committee are required for the implementation of this resolution.