Report on Resolution 11 of the 230th Annual Convention

Resolution 11, adopted by the 2014 Convention of the Diocese of Connecticut, expressed appreciation in its first resolve for “the good work of the Baptismal Covenant Working Group” and gratitude to “the parishes that participated in the Baptismal Covenant creation language study.”

The second and third resolves contained the wording of a resolution to be submitted to the 78th General Convention of the Episcopal Church meeting in Salt Lake City in the summer of 2015. This resolution called on the General Convention to add a sixth question to the Baptismal Covenant:

“Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation?”

“I will with God’s help.”

The final resolve asked that this additional question and answer be authorized for trial use during the 2016-2018 triennium.

When this resolution was submitted to General Convention, it became Resolution C015. It was assigned for initial consideration to the Joint Committee on Prayer Book, Liturgy and Music. Among those who spoke in support of C015 were the Rev. Linda Spiers (Chair of the Connecticut deputation) and three members of the Baptismal Covenant Working Group (the Rev Stephanie Johnson, Dr. Anne Rowthorn and Bishop Jeffery Rowthorn).

The Joint Committee recommended that Resolution C015 be referred to the Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music for consideration during the 2016-2018 triennium. The SCLM will report their recommendation to the next General Convention in 2018.

One factor that influenced this recommendation which the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies accepted was the adoption of another resolution calling on the SCLM to prepare a plan for the revision of the present Book of Common Prayer. This plan for revision is also to be presented to the 2018 General Convention.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Sanda Stayner
The Rt. Rev. Jeffery Rowthorn
on behalf of the Baptismal Covenant Working Group