

Something New is Coming to Convention

Every year, your ECCT Convention Planning Team hears the question, “Isn’t there something we can do about resolutions?” The team understand the sentiment: the process for drafting, submitting, presenting, and debating resolutions can seem convoluted. Even though it’s designed to be fair for everyone, it feels like one needs to know a secret language in order to participate. Plus, parliamentary procedure doesn't foster conversation about the ideas behind the resolutions, just the words and sentences on the page. We leave untapped the great wisdom present in the 600+ people who gather together in Convention every year.

“ *Isn't there something we can do about resolutions?* ”

How can we have thoughtful and in-depth conversations and still vote on necessary business?

Until recently, we didn’t have a good answer. But now we have something new, a different way of doing our business together in Convention, and we will try it on for part of our gathering this year. Here’s how it will work:

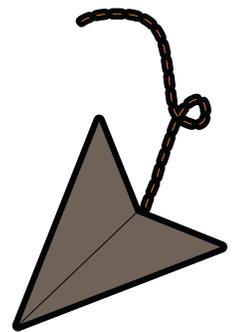
Step 1: Submit a Question



What do you want our Convention discuss? Any voting member of Convention may submit a single question/topic before September 7 that they would like Convention to consider together. It can be very specific and concrete or it can be big picture—the sky is the limit!

Step 2: Refine the Question

In early September, everyone who submitted a question/topic will be invited to a half-day gathering. Together, we will refine the questions and work with others who submitted similar questions. The goal will be to leave with a core set of questions.





Step 3: Vote on Questions



The core questions will be submitted to voting members of Convention in an electronic ballot. They will have one week to rank the questions in the order from greatest interest/passion to least. The 4 - 6 highest ranked questions will move to Convention to be discussed in workshops.

Step 4: Join the Work



On the Saturday afternoon of Convention, we will break into 4 - 6 workshops, each focused on one of the core questions. Participants will choose the workshop for which they feel the most passion. The workshop will dig into the core question, exploring and expanding it, until a course of action to emerges. Workshop participants will then report back to the whole Convention on their work, along with any actions needed from Convention. Any action approved by Convention will carry the same weight as a resolution.

Step 5: Celebrate

As we leave our time together at Convention, we will be able to celebrate the fact that we together at Convention, helped to discern and create the work of our church here in Connecticut, and thus further our participation in God's mission.

