



EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CONNECTICUT  
PARTICIPATING IN GOD'S MISSION

**SHARING IN THE WORK OF CREATING A SAFE CHURCH**

**Submitted by:** The Rev. Whitney Altopp, The Rev. Stephanie Johnson, The Rev. Daniel Simons, The Rev. Norma Schmidt, The Rev. Ian Montgomery, The Rev. Amjad Samuel, The Rev. Ted Pardoe, The Rev. Tracy Johnson Russell

RESOLVED, that a working group of congregational leadership and diocesan staff, be appointed by the Bishops in consultation with the Mission Council, to identify a way for parishes to collaborate in meeting the expectations of ECCT's Model Policies so that the financial and administrative burden at the congregational level is lessened, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this working group report its findings to the 238<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of ECCT.

**Explanation:** Clergy and lay leaders are eaten alive by administrative responsibilities. When these responsibilities aren't met, ministries within the congregation become laborious and susceptible to abuse. The ECCT Model Policies (Model Policies of The Episcopal Church) place the administrative oversight and cost solely at the level of parish leadership. Furthermore, they can impede the essential flexibility of congregational life. It is believed that this proposed working group of congregational and diocesan leadership can collaborate to more equally distribute the administrative responsibilities and cost of keeping our local communities safe for all vulnerable people.

**Statement:** This resolution aims to more justly distribute the responsibility of creating Beloved Community, a community which inherently includes the broken and the vulnerable.

**Statement of Requirements to Implement the Resolution:** A summary of cost, materials, and time required to implement the resolution. No additional requirements for implementation are needed.