



## **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**The 98<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Diocese of Upper South Carolina**

**ZOOM WEBINAR**

**COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**NOVEMBER 7, 2020**

### **Please return completed forms on or before September 9, 2019**

Proposals received after the deadline, other than resolutions originating in a Convocation meeting, will be treated as "special" resolutions which are subject to being accepted by the Convention before being considered.

#### **Completed forms may be submitted via:**

Fax: 803-799-5119

Email (completed, scanned forms): [convention@edusc.org](mailto:convention@edusc.org) OR

Mail: *Norah Grimboll, Secretary to Convention, 1115 Marion Street, Columbia, SC 29201.*

## **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**Date: October 23, 2020**

**Offered by: Executive Committee**

**Subject: Church of the Ascension, Seneca: Request for Mission Status**

This is a resolution from the Standing Committee of the Diocese addressing a request from the parish of Church of the Ascension in Seneca to convert to mission status. It is now submitted to Convention for approval. Through an oversight it was not submitted to the Committee on Resolutions in time to be included on the Convention agenda.

The decision to move a parish to mission status is one that focuses on the provision of resources, leadership development, and financial assistance that will support the congregation within its vocational purpose. Although the action may seem punitive, in reality the over-arching purpose is to move the congregation towards health and healing.

Whereas, the Episcopal Parish of Church of the Ascension, Seneca, (the "Parish") has experienced challenges including reduction in pledge income, the inability to fund a full-time rector, and the need for financial support from the Diocese, and

Whereas, the lay leadership of the Parish has requested that the Ecclesiastical Authority of the Diocese of Upper South Carolina (the “Diocese”) allow the Parish to be converted to mission status, and

Whereas, to that end, it was found to be appropriate to return the Parish to mission status while its lay leadership team discerns next steps in their vocational calling, and

Whereas, pursuant to Diocesan Canon VIII.10.1, approval of the conversion of the Parish to mission status is subject to review and concurrence by the 98<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina;

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 98<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina

1. That the Episcopal Parish of Church of the Ascension, Seneca, be converted to mission status under Diocesan Canon VIII.10.1 effective immediately;
2. That the lay leadership of the Parish continue its faithful work with the help of Partnership for ReNewal, the Commission on Congregations, and Diocesan Staff to discuss and discern what God might be calling the community into at this time in their common life together.
3. That the congregation remain as a mission until all requirements as a parish are met as outlined in Diocesan Canon VIII.8.1.
4. That all congregations of The Episcopal Diocese of Upper South Carolina hold Church of the Ascension in prayer and support them in their vocational calling.