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A Resolution Focusing on Those Living in Poverty
Resolved, that this 180th Convention of the Diocese of Vermont encourage its members to cultivate mindfulness about poverty in our communities, as well as the poverty into which Christ calls us, by including in our prayer and in every parish or diocesan meeting - as an agenda item or as a query for brief reflection – this question: “How will what we are doing here affect or involve those living in poverty?”

Proposers: The Rev. Stannard Baker, The Ven. Catherine Cooke, The Rev. Lucy Pellegrini; The Diocesan Deacons’ Council

Explanation: The essence of this resolution was included in Resolution A135 at this summer’s Triennial General Convention of the Episcopal Church. The practice of asking this question will lead to both awareness of and solidarity with those living in poverty as well as the poverty into which Christ calls us. The Association of Episcopal Deacons also supports the resolution. Deacons have a commitment to take a leadership role in our Church’s response to domestic poverty; diocesan deacons urge our church to reclaim its purpose as an institution of mission and service, believing that intentional conversation, reflection, and prayer will help us to focus on those who are living in poverty, much as Jesus did in His ministry. Poverty is a core issue that weaves through most other issues before our church. This model of focusing on a ministry/mission question for a year in all meetings will create a template that can be used for other core issues in future years