



Community of Christ

CHRIST'S MISSION, OUR MISSION

World Conference Resolution Form

Complete each section of this form and send it to Susan Naylor, World Church Secretary, snaylor@CofChrist.org; or Community of Christ International Headquarters, 1001 W. Walnut Street, Independence, MO 64050 USA.

The [Resolutions Review Team](#) is a resource available to those preparing resolutions. The Team consists of members who are copyeditors, legal counsel, parliamentarians, and common consent representatives.

This Team can assist stewards in the preparation of a resolution, provides guidance if a resolution might be best supported through the Common Consent process, copyedit for clarity and translations, help to ensure they are understandably written and not in conflict with church bylaws or Robert's Rules of Order, and help with formatting.

This Team also advises the First Presidency when a resolution is submitted that is an issue relating to a specific policy for all nations or an issue that could cause serious harm if considered by the Conference.

The review and feedback of this Review Team does not represent the final decision of the First Presidency regarding the status of a resolution. Before World Conference, the First Presidency evaluates each resolution to formally determine its ruling on whether or not the resolution is "in order."

Contact [Susan Naylor](#), World Church Secretary, to engage with the Resolutions Review Team.

Title of Resolution: To create a bicentennial commemoration Doctrine and Covenants

Submitting body: *(Mission Center, Quorum, Council, Order)* Click or tap here to enter text.
Midlands

Date approved by submitting body: Click or tap here to enter text.

Resolution Steward: *(the Steward is the primary advocate or spokesperson for this Resolution)*

- Steward Name Dave Hall
- Address 12303 W 71 Street, Shawnee, Kansas 66216
- Phone Number 913-424-5671
- Email mizzoufan52@gmail.com

Support Statement

A Support Statement is a short statement (300 to 500 words) making a case for the Resolution. This statement explains the thoughts and/or experiences of the group (Mission Center, Quorum, Council, Order) that led them to support the premise of the proposed legislation. This statement is **to convince** people to support the legislation. In turn, the Support Statement could be an affirmative speech once it reaches the World Conference legislative floor.

Potential inclusions for consideration:

- What are the reasons that you believe the World Church should support this resolution?
- What is the anticipated outcome if this resolution is approved? OR What is the impact if this resolution is not approved?
- Is this proposed resolution internationally focused?
- How does this proposed resolution promote Community of Christ's mission?
- What is the relationship of this proposed resolution to other World Conference Resolutions already approved? A list of approved World Conference Resolutions can be found in [Our Ministry Tools](#).

Click or tap here to enter text.

To celebrate our open canon of scripture, highlight the principle of continuing revelation, clarify the Cof C understanding of the nature of scripture, and to prevent further attempts to remove sections like 116 from the body of our scriptural heritage, we ask the First Presidency to publish a bicentennial edition of the D&C with expanded historical and cultural preludes to sections which merit special attention. Issues of vocabulary changes over time, issues significant in a particular culture at a particular time, and explanation for why some sections have been removed will be a gift to the world as the CofC presents a more readable presentation and explanation of materials presented by our prophets and accepted by our people.

Res. 1215 (1990) removed the historical Appendix containing sections which had moved there by conference action

Res 1115 1973, resolution in appendix must come before the president and conference before being placed back in the body of the D&C

Background Information

Background Information is short (300-500 words). It includes factual information regarding an issue or a concern that this resolution seeks to address and other options considered before approval of the resolution. The Background Information might explain the history/or motivation for creating this legislation. This is **not to convince** people to support the legislation; rather, it provides the background for the resolution's creation.

Again, the Background Information should be approximately 300-500 words long; it will be available for pre-conference online sessions and read aloud during Discussion Sessions before the World Conference. Those listening have a difficult time paying attention if it is too long.

Potential inclusions for consideration:

- What prompted attention to this issue or concern?
- What process was involved in creating this resolution?
- What is the concern or opportunity this item seeks to address?
- Who is directly or indirectly impacted, and how?
- Does this resolution have a financial impact to implement? Does it require extra funds or the redirection of existing funds?
- What other options were considered before approving this proposed resolution?

Section 116 came before the 2023 conference to be moved to historical reference. Clarification of the history and cultural context demonstrated the change of word choice “negro” in 1865 when given, and today when the word no longer is appropriate, allowed the valued declaration that men (people of color) of all races can be called to minister. The initial effort to compose a resolution to clarify by expanding the preamble to each section of the Doctrine and Covenants became unwieldy since volumes can be written (Dale E. Luffman, two volume set). To borrow from that work in briefly explaining the nature of scripture in the Community of Christ, and pay for it by sale of the hard copies while making it available on line as a benchmark of two hundred years of the restored gospel, makes a bicentennial celebration the better option.

[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Full Text of the Resolution

Since a resolution must be translated into multiple languages, the First Presidency urges resolutions submitted for World Conference consideration to be clear and brief.

Roberts Rules of Order encourages minimizing preamble statements, which we understand are the “Whereas” statements. Information that might be included in a Whereas, should be considered to be included in the Support or Background statements. [Roberts Rules of Order: Newly Revised 11th Edition pp. 106-107]

A misconception is that information needs to be included in Whereas statements because Whereas statements cannot be amended. Whereas statements have the ability to be amended once the Resolved sections have been approved. Information included in the Support Statements and Background information is non-actionable. If Whereas statements are included in a resolution, they will be published with the resolution if it is accepted.

It should be emphasized that neither rule nor custom requires a resolution to have preamble Whereas, and a Whereas should not be used for the sake of form. The Resolved is a factual statement that can live on into the future. **Resolved statements should be able stand alone without any preamble/Whereas statements.**

Potential Formatting suggestion:

Resolved, That...[stating action to be taken]; and be it further
Resolved, That...[stating further action to be taken].

If a resolution must have Whereas preambles, the formatting is:

Whereas, The...[text of the first preamble clause, *if needed*]; and
Whereas, ...[text of the next preamble clause]; now, therefore be it
Resolved, That...[stating action to be taken]; and be it further
Resolved, That...[stating further action to be taken].

Click or tap here to enter text.

Additional Information

Include any supplementary documentation, references, website links, etc. that may help people understand the item. Remember, this information should be available in English, French, and Spanish to be most helpful.

Whereas, the Community of Christ embraces the enduring principle of continuing revelation, and

Whereas, continuing revelations are compiled and published in the Doctrine and Covenants, and

Whereas, concerns expressed as in Section 116 brought before the 2023 conference emphasize the need for clarification of historical and cultural contexts in which documents are received as scripture, and

Whereas, the conference action removing some sections to an Appendix and a later Res; 1215 (1990) removed the Appendix leaving unexplained gaps in the book (sections 107, 108A, 109 and 110), and

Whereas, a book can be expected to pay for its publication by its sales, and

Whereas, the digital (searchable) edition of the Doctrine and Covenants provided in 2023 adds significantly to our scriptural repository, and

Whereas, a new edition celebrating our bicentennial in 2030 would have a revitalizing affect, therefore be it

Resolved, That the First Presidency prepare a bicentennial edition of the Doctrine and Covenants to include; historical and cultural contexts of revelations to facilitate understanding, clarifying our appreciation of scripture, and celebrating our heritage, and be it further

Resolved, that it be available in multiple languages on line at no cost, while at the same time be available bound for purchase.

Title of Resolution: Resolution to create a compilation-abridgement of Divine instruction and encouragement to the Modern World

Submitting body: (*Mission Center, Quorum, Council, Order*) **Midlands Mission Center**

Date approved by submitting body: Click or tap here to enter text.

Resolution Steward:

(the Steward is the primary advocate or spokesperson for this Resolution)

- Steward Name Paul DeBarthe
- Address 7327 Beverly, Overland Park, Kansas 66204
- Phone Number 913-963-2177
- Email debarthep@gmail.com

Support Statement

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A gift to the world celebrating 200 years of the gospel restored through Joseph Smith Jr. will highlight significant messages from the Divine compiled and abridged from around the world. The Great I AM of the ages continues to speak, urging use of the golden rule, hospitality, respect, listening and love. The task will be in the hands of qualified volunteers appointed by the First Presidency. They will compile and abridge from the international body of scripture giving special emphasis to the enduring principles, therefor messages to and through the Community of Christ.

\Background Information

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Potential inclusions for consideration:

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- What process was involved in creating this resolution?
- What is the concern or opportunity this item seeks to address?
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- What other options were considered before approving this proposed resolution?

While the Doctrine and Covenants includes God's word to the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ and the Community of Christ, it also includes a good deal of administrative business not of particular interest to the seekers wanting an introduction to our modern scripture. This abridgement would select with particular focus upon the instruction of the Divine for the good of mankind. The resolution began as an abridgement of the D&C and has expanded in consultation with Midlands Mission Center members into a larger effort to recognize the ministry of the Christ to "other sheep" with whom He shared the gospel.

Full Text of the Resolution

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Whereas, ...[text of the next preamble clause]; now, therefore be it
Resolved, That...[stating action to be taken]; and be it further
Resolved, That...[stating further action to be taken].

Whereas, The Community of Christ offers scripture unique and instructive to the world, and
Whereas, Section 163 invites us to become a prophetic people sharing our sacred journey,
therefore be it

Resolved, That a compilation-abridgment of God’s word to the modern world be prepared by
qualified volunteers appointed to this mission by the First Presidency to highlight counsel,
inspiration and support for the enduring principles, and be it further

Resolved, That this edition be made available in multiple languages on-line at no cost to the
consumer. (However, it may also be bound and sold), And be it further

Resolved, That this compilation-abridgment be available in 2030 for the bi-centennial
celebration of the Book of Mormon and establishment of the Church.

Additional Information

Include any supplementary documentation, references, website links, etc. that may help people understand the item. Remember, this information should be available in English, French, and Spanish to be most helpful.

Resolution to create a compilation-abridgement of Divine instruction and encouragement to the modern world

Whereas, The Community of Christ offers scripture unique and instructive to the world, and *Whereas*, Section 163 invites us to become a prophetic people sharing our sacred journey, therefore be it

Resolved, That a compilation-abridgment of God's word to the modern world be prepared by qualified volunteers appointed to this mission by the First Presidency to highlight counsel, inspiration and support for the enduring principles, and be it further

Resolved, That this edition be made available in multiple languages on-line at no cost to the consumer. (However, it may also be bound and sold), And be it further

Resolved, That this compilation-abridgment be available in 2030 for the bi-centennial celebration of the Book of Mormon and establishment of the Church.

Speech: The Great "I AM" has spoken to the ages, sanctioning existence, sanctioning our being as part of the great sacred creations of God. We believe in continuing revelation and are called as a prophetic people to generously share our understanding of God's will for humanity today. We believe in the worth of all persons, that they should be blessed with virtuous community in which unity includes diversity, providing context for the promised land of Peace.

To ask the First Presidency to compile and abridge God's word to the modern world will accomplish several goals:

1. It will provide a body of scripture focused upon God's expressed will. This will codify the enduring principles as scripture. By utilizing qualified volunteers, cost will be minimal.
2. It will integrate scripture from cultures around the world; possible examples;
 - a. The Golden Rule, a message in each of the Great Religions
 - b. The quest for enlightenment, A Buddhist theme
 - c. The quest for compassion and the ability to recite, Moslem themes and
 - d. Words from the prophets of the Restoration, emphasizing the call to listen to His voice, and
 - e. To build up the cause of the Peaceable Kingdom, Bringing to pass the immortality and eternal life of man and
 - f. Ultimately to love.
3. It will as a bi-centennial project, highlight the open scripture tradition and provide an example, characterizing the Community of Christ as world culture, sharing the words directly attributable to the Divine, thereby promoting the Divine purpose in creation.