



# THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

*The Diocese of Central Pennsylvania*

A Resolution regarding anti-racism

Submitted by: The Anti-Racism Commission of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania

**Resolved:** That this 139<sup>th</sup> annual convention of the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania does now commit itself to work to become a church committed to ending institutional and other forms of racism in this diocese and that each congregation commit itself to the work of overcoming the sin of racism through dialogue and training as offered by the Commission on Racism, and be it further

**Resolved:** That the lay and ordained leadership of the diocese of Central Pennsylvania, including all ordained persons, professional staff and those elected or appointed to positions of leadership on committees, commissions, agencies, and boards be required to take antiracism training as provided by the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania Commission on Racism; and be it further

**Resolved:** That all parishes involved in search processes along with their vestries be required to take the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania Anti-Racism Dialogue training; and be it further

**Resolved:** That the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania commitment include but not be limited to increasing the recruitment and deployment of persons of color as clergy and lay professional in the church.

## **Explanation:**

In 1991 the general convention of the Episcopal Church urged all diocese and congregations to conduct and audit and reduce the injury of institutional Racism (A199), additionally, The 70<sup>th</sup> General Convention urged each diocese to implement and to strengthen initiatives with congregations toward becoming a Church of and for all races.

The 73<sup>rd</sup> General Convention in 2000 extended its anti-racism commitment for another nine years (AO47). This same General Convention also recommended a resolution requiring anti-racism training at all levels. This resolution also required training and certification of all lay and ordained leadership of the Episcopal Church.

The 74<sup>th</sup> General Convention in 2003 (A010) reaffirmed its historic commitment to eradicate racial injustice in the Church and in secular society, and that the Executive Council continue the anti-racism program with appropriate staffing and budget, as approved by the 73<sup>rd</sup> General Convention (A047), and recommend the National Dialogues on Anti-Racism methodology.