



Justice-seeking.
People of faith.



Plumbline: Racial Justice

Methodist Federation for Social Action

www.mfsaweb.org

Facebook: MFSAVoices or Twitter: @MFSAVoices

“I am setting a plumbline in the midst of my people...” - Amos 7:8

Values at Stake

Dismantling racism must be at the center of any faith movement. As all are made in God’s image, racism denies the intrinsic humanity of our neighbors and siblings in faith.

Within The United Methodist Church, we still struggle with institutional racism at all levels of the denomination. The Methodist Federation for Social Action (MFSA) supports the work of the General Commission on Religion and Race in building a Church that is contextually relevant, fosters cultural competency, and engages in vital conversations about the intersections of religion and race, while seeking equity and justice. We join in calling for **acts of repentance** for the Church’s acts of racism and colonialism, especially for participation in and the per-

petuation of acts against native and indigenous peoples. We encourage the Church to **more deeply understand tribalism and the harm it does to the Church** and cultures. We call for the Church to engage in interfaith work and strive to **eradicate Islamophobia and Xenophobia**, both in the United States and globally. We support initiatives to **strengthen local church and community ministries with ethnic/minority neighbors**.

Beyond the work of eradicating racism within The United Methodist Church, the Church is called to be a witness to broader society. To that extent, MFSA supports legislation that understands racial injustice does not stand alone from other forms of injustice. **Environmental racism and poor access to health care, criminalization of race, racial profiling, and dis-**

proportional number of minorities caught in the industrial prison complex and sitting on death row are signs that a biblical understanding of justice must begin with working against racism and white privilege.

MFSA shares in the opportunity and responsibility to join the entire United Methodist Church in acts of repentance. **We repent from our own institutional racism and white privilege, both historic and contemporary.** Such acts are not “once and done,” but undertaken again and again and again. Only from true repentance and the work of overcoming racism and privilege can we be about the work of God’s healing wholeness.

Resources:

[General Commission on Religion and Race](#)

[Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century](#)

[Racial/Ethnic Ministry National Plans](#)

[Healing Communities](#)

[UMC and the Sand Creek Massacre](#)

[Environmental Racism](#)

[The New Jim Crow](#)

[Amnesty International Report on Death Penalties](#)

[SURJ: Showing Up for Racial Justice](#)

Key Legislation: SUPPORT

CA 60246 : Environmental Racism

CA 60241 : Prejudice Against Muslims and Arabs

CA 60411 : Death Penalty

CA 60176 : To “End the War on Drugs”

CA 60463 : Criminal Justice

CA 60534 : Racism and Mass Incarceration

CA 60693 : Employment and Criminal History

CB 60116 : Rights of Racial & Ethnic Persons

CB 60112 : Affirming Diverse Languages in US

CB 60402 : Repentance for Support of Eugenics

CB 60253 : Charter for Racial Justice Policies in an Interdependent Global Community

CB 60111 : Affirmative Action

CB 60118 : Readopt Resolution : Exclusivity

CB 60122 : Opposition to White Privilege in US

CB 60254 : Speaking Out for Compassion

CB 60536 : Resisting Hate, Fear, & Scapegoating

CB 60120 : Opposition to Global Racism, Tribalism, & Xenophobia

CB 60047 : UMC & The Sand Creek Massacre

CB 60121 : Opposition to Racial Profiling in US

CB 60224 : End Celebration of Columbus Day

CB 60263 : Stop Criminalizing Communities of Color in US

CB 60532 : Impact of Racism on Health in US

CB 60543 : Effectively Recruiting & Retaining Young Clergy of Color

CB60862 : Ending Replacement Theology

DI 60109 : Strengthening the Black Church in the 21st Century

DI 60310 : Restoring Black Churches in Urban Communities

DI 60849 : Native People & The UMC

DI 60850 : Support for Indian Child Welfare Act

DI 60851 : Names Demeaning to Native Americans

FA 60299 : Native American Ministry Sunday

GA 60298 : Native American Ministry Sunday

GM 60313 : Church Response to Ethnic & Religious Conflict

IC 60034 : African American Methodist Heritage Center

IC 60124 : Responsibilities for Eradication of Racism in US

Key Legislation: DO NOT SUPPORT

CA 60712 : Solidarity with Crime Victims