

RESOLUTION C-182

RESOLUTION TO REPAIR RACIAL INJUSTICE

Submitted by Standing Committee

WHEREAS the Episcopal Diocese of Missouri understands that justice is a core value rooted in the Gospel and is central to further God's mission and that God calls us to acknowledge and confront systemic racism and white supremacy, in our nation and in the Diocese of Missouri; and

WHEREAS we reaffirm the promise made at our baptism to respect the dignity of all individuals and to work to create welcoming and inclusive environments within our parishes, and our worshipping communities, that nurture and allow all of God's children to succeed, grow, be respected, and valued, to contribute to the building up of the Body of Christ, and to share in the benefits and rewards of those contributions; and

WHEREAS the people of the Diocese of Missouri fervently repent the Diocese of Missouri's historic participation in the chattel slavery of people of African descent and the systematic oppression of First Nations peoples;

BE IT RESOLVED that it is the will of this 182nd Convention of the Diocese of Missouri that, as a sign of our contrition, we request the Bishop Diocesan to commit to the seeding of an endowment ~~of \$1,000,000 (one million dollars)~~ to finance the work of reparations repairing racial injustice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this 182nd Convention encourages congregations, institutions, and members of the Diocese to join the Bishop in this endeavor by contributing additional resources to this endowment with the goal of a fund of at least \$1,000,000 (one million dollars); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we request the Bishop assure that the endowment be subject to appropriate oversight to assure sound fiscal management, administration and disbursement of these designated funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as part of this important and ongoing work, each parish, mission, and worshipping community ~~shall~~ is strongly encouraged to take steps to discover their historic complicity in racism through research of their registers and archives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Diocesan Council create, with all appropriate urgency, opportunities for public acknowledgment, reconciliation, restitution, and restoration for the Diocese of Missouri's complicity in supporting the systematic and systemic exclusion of First Nations' peoples from their native lands and customs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this 182nd Convention of the Diocese of Missouri recommends the hiring of an Officer for Racial Justice to coordinate, facilitate, and champion the work identified in this resolution.