



# Community of Christ

CHRIST'S MISSION, OUR MISSION

**October 11, 2023**

## **SUPPORTING RACIAL JUSTICE IN THE USA**

Oneness and equality in Christ do not mean uniformity. They mean Unity in Diversity and relating in Christ-like love to the circumstances of others as if they were one's own. They also mean full opportunity for people to experience human worth and related rights, including expressing God-given giftedness in the church and society.

Doctrine and Covenants 165:3e

Community of Christ World Conference 2023 took another essential step towards faithfully living the Enduring Principles Worth of all Persons and Unity in Diversity. As a faith community we acknowledge racism is a sin that opposes these gospel imperatives. World Conference Resolution 1326 is a bold statement urging us to confront the sin of racism and create a just, peaceful, and equitable society for all.

We acknowledge the part we play in perpetuating racist systems. We call for a renewed commitment to confront and eliminate all circumstances of racist experience and affirm “the aim of Community of Christ is nothing less than an inclusive church in an inclusive society.” (WCR 1326).

As followers of Jesus Christ, who taught us how to love, we are called to use our voice and actions to challenge systems of racial injustice found throughout the world. We dedicate ourselves to listen deeply to members and friends who experience racism, to educate ourselves on the sin of racism, to speak up, and to take action toward full equality. We recognize that racial injustice is intertwined with other systems of power. We renew our commitment to support through deed and action all who experience pain, violence, and separation from community because of unjust and racist systems.

### **LEARN MORE:**

- Community of Christ Diversity and Inclusion Team: <https://cofchrist.org/diversity-and-inclusion-team/>
- *Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack: White Privilege in America*, by Peggy McIntosh  
<https://www.wcwonline.org/Fact-Sheets-Briefs/white-privilege-unpacking-the-invisible-knapsack-2>
- *How To Be Anti-Racist*, by Ibram Kendi  
<https://www.ibramxkendi.com/how-to-be-an-antiracist>

- *Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*, by Dr. Robin DiAngelo <https://www.robindiangelo.com/publications/>
- *Dear White Christians: For Those Still Longing for Racial Reconciliation*, by Jennifer Harvey  
<https://jenniferharvey.org/other-publications/>

## DO SOMETHING:

- SURJ: Showing Up for Racial Justice -A home for White People Working for Justice  
<https://surj.org/>
- Community of Christ Local Diversity Team Guide  
[https://s3.amazonaws.com/monkdev.mnk.26072/uploaded/1/0e13668712\\_1643397639\\_local-diversity-team-guide.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/monkdev.mnk.26072/uploaded/1/0e13668712_1643397639_local-diversity-team-guide.pdf)
- Establish a mission center Diversity and Inclusion Team (Listen to Dr. Vincent Lewis and Kris Judd tell the story of how they did that in Lamoni Heartland Mission Center on this podcast: <https://www.projectzionpodcast.org/podcast/347-whats-brewing-lamoni-heartland-mission-center-diversity-team/>)

## CHURCH STATEMENTS/ACTIONS:

- WCR 1326 Resolution on Racial Justice (adopted April 27, 2023) – Link
- WCRs 171, 963, 976, 995, 1064, 1075, 1142, 1161, 1198, 1200, 1226, 1233, 1302.
- CofC Scripture and Race Paper and Preface [https://s3.amazonaws.com/account-media/26072/uploaded/c/0e15584063\\_1679335836\\_community-of-christ-scripture-and-race-20032023.pdf](https://s3.amazonaws.com/account-media/26072/uploaded/c/0e15584063_1679335836_community-of-christ-scripture-and-race-20032023.pdf)
- Steve Veazey Video “Racial Justice and Reconciliation”  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qrrDyQrGOWI>

## Apostles serving the USA Fields

Janné Grover  
Robin Linkhart  
Lach Mackay  
Shandra Newcom  
Dave Nii  
Mareva Arnaud Tchong (Hawaii)  
Angela Ramirez (Southern Texas)