

Antiracism Policy

Shelter Island Presbyterian Church

Shelter Island, New York

As a multicultural community of faith, we affirm the truth of scripture that affirms the church to be composed of a diversity of people who are one in Christ for *There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. Galatian 3: 28.*

As Jesus said, “*My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you*” *John 5:12*. Therefore, we are committed to this reality within the church and will work in outreach and daily life to create an awareness of institutional racism in the church, in our nation and in our global environment where people of color, new immigrants, and women are denied these God-given rights. We will seek to empower those who are marginalized by racism and racial inequality and gender bias to live into the reality of their God-given gifts and dignity so that they can serve fully in ministry and leadership.

We will seek to share the gospel in an increasingly diverse culture, seeking to live out the Christlike vision of a world where the humanity of everyone is valued and where God’s love is spread to every race, class, culture and people.

We will be open to participate with others within PCUSA and in the global marketplace to be a voice for those who have no voice seeking justice and opportunity for all of God’s children.

We affirm the statement of The General Assembly that “affirms its conviction that neither the Church as the body of Christ, nor Christians as individuals, can be neutral or indifferent toward evil in the world; affirms its responsibility to speak on social and moral issues for the encouragement and instruction of the Church and its members, seeking earnestly both to know the mind of Christ and to speak always in humility and love; reminds the churches that their duty is not only to encourage and train their members in daily obedience to God’s will, but corporately to reveal God’s grace in places of suffering and need, to resist the forces that tyrannize, and to support the forces that restore the dignity of all men as the children of God, for only so is the gospel most fully proclaimed; . . .” (1958 Statement – PC(USA), p. 537).

Approved by the session on *August 19, 2025*

Signatures

Clerk of Session

Pastor