



Covenant on Anti-racism
September 24, 2020

As members of the Rio Texas Conference Cabinet, Conference Directors, and Conference Secretary, we assert:

Our nation has arrived upon a moment of reckoning regarding the sin of racism that has permeated American hearts, systems, and communities since our founding. This same racism has also shaped American Methodism since our earliest days and continues to mark our life as the Rio Texas Conference. We believe that both the suffering of people of color and their lives, faithfulness, and giftedness are bound closely to the heart of God, and as baptized Christians, we have committed ourselves “to resist evil, injustice, and oppression, in whatever forms they present themselves.”

Together we covenant to the following:

We will work intentionally, individually and collectively, to seek out and confront the presence of racism in our own hearts, attitudes, and actions. We will approach this as a spiritual discipline, in faithfulness to our Creator and to Christ’s command to love our neighbor as ourselves.

We will listen to the voices and experiences of Black, Hispanic, Asian, and other persons of color as we learn to act more justly.

We will work together to identify the sinful patterns and practices of racism in our conference, our churches, and our communities. We will take concrete steps to repent and take concrete steps toward equity. We will give ourselves fully to the ongoing anti-racism work our bishop has announced.

We acknowledge that anti-racism is both a perspective and a journey. We will strive to listen, speak, and act with honesty, courage, grace for ourselves and others,

and a sincere desire to learn and grow. We will maintain our focus on the needs of those most harmed by racism in all its forms.

We will put our faith in our good and gracious God and will trust that the work of anti-racism will bring blessing and healing to all people.

Tanya Eustace Campen

Director, Intergenerational Ministries

Marcus Freeman

District Superintendent

Greg Hackett

District Superintendent

Karen Horan

Director, Creating/Vitalizing Congregations
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Robert Lopez

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Diana Phillips

Director, Connectional Ministries

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Andy Smith

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