



Understanding the Issue

“The United Methodist Church proclaims that from God’s goodness and love, God created all persons as God’s unique and beloved children. Racism opposes God’s law, goodness, and love and diminishes the image of God in each person. Fueled by white privilege, white supremacy, and colonialism, the sin of racism has been a destructive scourge on global society and throughout the history of The United Methodist Church. It continues to destroy our communities, harm persons, obstruct unity, and undermine God’s work in this world. Racism must be eradicated. Therefore, The United Methodist Church commits to confronting and eliminating all forms of racism, racial inequity, colonialism, white privilege, and white supremacy.” -Article V. *Racial Justice*, proposed amendment

Seeking racial justice in The United Methodist Church is imperative for the well-being of the church as a whole and of its members. The petitions in this plumblines were identified by the Inter-Ethnic Strategy Development Group (IESDG), which comprises of leaders of the denomination's five official ethnic caucuses: [Black Methodists for Church Renewal](#), [Metodistas Asociados Representando la Causa de los Hispano-Americanos](#), [National Federation of Asian American United Methodists](#), [Native American International Caucus](#), and Pacific Islander National Caucus of United Methodists, as critical for the well-being of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC).

Values

- Racial justice
- Fullness of the body of Christ
- Justice
- Full inclusion

Analysis

The petitions related to racial justice and moving The United Methodist Church to equity for the BIPOC community are vast and numerous because people of a wide variety of racial-ethnic identities are present in every aspect of our shared life in the church.

Of special note is the petition, “Racial Justice”, proposing that the General Conference approve a constitutional amendment to Article V. The “Racial Justice” petition edits the current language to make it more direct and unequivocal in denouncing racism; naming white privilege, white supremacy, and colonialism as the fuel for racism; and declaring that the United Methodist Church must live as an actively anti-racist institution. (See the text quoted above.)

The Inter-Ethnic Strategy Development Group (IESDG) works as a coalition to support Racial-Ethnic ministries and advocacy in the United Methodist Church and Society. IESDG and MFSA support The [Worldwide Regionalization Plan](#) as presented by the Standing Committee on Central Conferences and the [Revised Social Principles](#) as presented by the General Board of Church and Society. These proposals

were both collective works to lead the church, to decenter our white supremacy and colonial mindset, and to center the voices and experiences of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color as part of the worldwide connection. IESDG also supports the work of our programmatic general agencies and commissions.

Resources

- [GCORR Legislation](#)
- [General Conference Briefing hosted by New York MFSA and MFSA](#)
- Cal-Pac MFSA General Conference briefing
 - [MARCHA Presentation](#)
 - [NFAAUM](#)

Recommended Action

Vote in YES on:

Petition #	ADCA Page	Vol.	Petition Title
CHURCH & SOCIETY 1			
20727-CA	158	2-1	Revised Social Principles-Preface
20728-CA	159	2-1	Revised Social Principle-Preamble
20731-CA	166	2-1	Revised Social Principles-163
20562-CA	181	2-1	Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education for All
20556-CA	182	2-1	Church-Government Relations
20555-CA	188	2-1	Electoral Campaign Finance Reform
20618-CA	194	2-1	A Call for Civility in Public Discourse
20754-CA	1192	3	Environmental Racism in the United States
20761-CA	1193	3	Black College Fund
CHURCH & SOCIETY 2			
20730-CB	208	2-1	Revised Social Principles - 161 and 162
20048-CB	221	2-1	Expanding the Meaning of "Immigrant"
20561-CB	228	2-1	In Support of US Dreamers
20597-CB	235	2-1	Child Incarceration
20606-CB	246	2-1	The United Methodist Church is a Sanctuary Church
20609-CB	248	2-1	Concerning Immigration
20799-CB	1211	3	African American Methodist Heritage Center
20801-CB	1212	3	Observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day
20814-CB	1215	3	Annual Conference Strategic Comprehensive Plans for Hispanic/Latinx Ministry
20817-CB	1218	3	Welcoming the Migrant to the US
20818-CB	1221	3	Faithfulness in Response to Critical Needs
20822-CB	1222	3	Native People and the UMC
20823-CB	1222	3	Trail of Repentance and Healing
20824-CB	1224	3	Opposing Names Demeaning to Native Americans

Petition #	ADCA Page	Vol.	Petition Title
20825-CB	1224	3	United Methodist Responses to the Sand Creek Massacre
20826-CB	1225	3	Doctrine of Discovery
20827-CB	1226	3	Native American Religious Freedom Act
20828-CB	1226	3	Regarding Native American Culture and Traditions as Sacred
20829-CB	1226	3	Every Barrier Down: Toward Full Embrace of All Women in Church and Society
20830-CB	1230	3	Support for the Indian Child Welfare Act: Education, Health Care and Welfare
20832-CB	1230	3	Affirmative Action
20833-CB	1231	3	Annual Conferences', Districts' and Local Congregations' Responsibilities for the Eradication of Racism
20834-CB	1231	3	Opposition to Racial Profiling in the US
20835-CB	1235	3	Racism and Economic Injustice Against People of Color in the U.S.
20836-CB	1233	3	Stop Criminalizing Communities of Color in the United States
20844-CB	1241	3	Addressing racial-ethnic discrimination and gender-based violence in the Asian American context
21096-CB	1250	3	Commemoration of Juneteenth National Holiday as a Day of Reflection, Celebration and Advocacy
CHURCH & SOCIETY 3			
20732-CC	263	2-1	Revised Social Principles -164 and 165
20625-CC	287	2-1	Crimes against humanity Genocide, War Crimes
20626-CC	289	2-1	The United Nations and Multilateralism
20628-CC	294	2-1	Resolution Toward an Anti-Colonial Church
20849-CC	1252	3	Africa University
20851-CC	1253	3	Global Racism and Xenophobia: Impact on Women, Children and Youth
20858-CC	1254	3	Political Status of Puerto Rico
20859-CC	1255	3	US Policy in Vieques
20860-CC	1256	3	Lift the US Embargo of Cuba
20862-CC	1258	3	United States-Mexico Border
20867-CC	1259	3	Violence Against Children in Latin America and Caribbean
20873-CC	1261	3	Addressing Israeli Detention of Children
20874-CC	1262	3	Christian Persecution in India
CONFERENCES			
20527-CO	341	2-1	Ensuring Role of Commission on Equitable Compensation
21043-CO	1300	3	"Worldwide Regionalization, Petition #5 of 8 –The Creation of the U.S. Regional Committee
21040-CO	1303	3	Worldwide Regionalization, Petition #2 of 8 – Enabling Legislation on Regional Conferences, Contingent Upon the Ratification of the Constitutional Amendments to Create Regional Conferences on a Worldwide Basis Discipline
21042-CO	1362	3	Worldwide Regionalization, Petition #4 of 8 – Enabling Legislation to Change Terminology of Central Conference(s) Upon the Ratification of the Constitutional Amendments To Create Regional Conferences in A Worldwide Basis
21044-CO	1362	3	Worldwide Regionalization, Petition #6 of 8 – A Non-Disciplinary Petition Enabling an Interim United States Legislative Committee

Petition #	ADCA Page	Vol.	Petition Title
21045-CO	1363	3	Worldwide Regionalization, Petition #7 of 8 – A Non-Disciplinary Petition to Create a Plan for Organization of a United States Regional Conference
21046-CO	1364	3	"Worldwide Regionalization, Petition #8 of 8 - A Non-Disciplinary Petition to Update and Perfect the New Regional Conference Structure Contingent Upon the Ratification of the Constitutional Amendment in Petition 1
20985-CO	1366	3	Resolution for a Better Church: Strengthening the Work of Cross-Racial/ Cross-Cultural Ministry
20986-CO	1376	3	Resolution on the Protection and Equity for Hispanic/Latino Clergy
DISCIPLESHIP			
20118-DI	394	2-1	Make National Plans Less U.S. Centric
20119-DI	394	2-1	Make National Plans Less U.S. Centric
20532-DI	411	2-1	Strengthening the Black Church for the 21st Century
20533-DI	420	2-1	Native American Comprehensive Plan
20636-DI	425	2-1	Prioritizing Young People in the Local Church
20631-DI	426	2-1	Support for the Upper Room's Emmaus Ministries at All Levels of the Church
GLOBAL MINISTRIES			
20272-GM	703	2-2	ALL BELONG: Support for Intersectional Justice Work—GBGM
20535-GM	705	2-2	The Pacific Island Ministry Plan
20536-GM	705	2-2	National Plan for Hispanic/Latino Ministries
20537-GM	705	2-2	Korean Ministry Plan
20538-GM	705	2-2	Asian-American Language Ministry Plan
20595-GM	706	2-2	"Holistic Strategy on Latin America and Caribbean Special Program 2020-2024"
20573-GM	708	2-2	Nurturing and Enabling Cooperative Ministry
20572-GM	708	2-2	Church and Community Workers
20634-GM	709	2-2	Church and Community Workers
20547-GM	709	2-2	A Covenant to Care: Recognizing and Responding to the Many Faces of HIV/AIDS in the USA
20546-GM	713	2-2	The Church and the Global HIV/AIDS Pandemic
20579-GM	717	2-2	Rural Chaplains in Ministry
20544-GM	717	2-2	Seeking Peace in Afghanistan
20596-GM	721	2-2	Mandate for Racial-Ethnic Ministries
20633-GM	721	2-2	Religious Freedom: Grounded in Love
20800-GM	1212	3	Resourcing Black Churches in Urban Communities
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION			
20251-GA	639	2-2	Proposed Changes for Native American Ministries Sunday
21074-GA	1506	3	Names of Task Force Members Shall be Made Public
INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONS			
20332-IC	859	2-2	Racial Justice
20587-IC	893	2-2	Expansion of Inclusive Language
20570-IC	894	2-2	White Privilege in the United States
20569-IC	898	2-2	Cultural Competency Training
20831-IC	1230	3	A Charter for Racial Justice in an Interdependent Global Community

Petition #	ADCA Page	Vol.	Petition Title
20571-IC	898	2-2	Support for MultiCultural Ministry
20582-IC	899	2-2	Apology for Illegal Overthrow of Hawaiian Kingdom
20588-IC	904	2-2	Encounter with Christ in Latin America and the Caribbean
20590-IC	906	2-2	Voting Rights Protections in the United States
20752-IC	1599	3	Recognition, Empowerment, and Sustainability of The General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR) and The General Commission on the Status and Role of Women (GCSRW)
JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATION			
20362-JA	920	2-2	When Fair Process begins in Judicial Complaints
20366-JA	924	2-2	Add Domestic Violence to the List of Chargeable Offenses
20390-JA	934	2-2	Removal of Mandatory Penalty
20395-JA	936	2-2	Random Selection of the Trial Court Pool
20402-JA	938	2-2	Organize Administrative Fair Process Paragraphs
21067-JA	1601	3	Add Emotional/Psychological Abuse
21069-JA	1602	3	"Review of proceedings to ensure fair process in complaints against racial/ethnic/tribal minorities"
ORDAINED MINISTRIES			
20747-OM	1010	2-2	A Fully Inclusive Way Forward -- Part 4 of 8
20510-OM	1060	2-2	Effectively Recruiting and Retaining Young Clergy of Color

This document was prepared in collaboration with the Inter-Ethnic Strategy Development Group (IESDG), which comprises of leaders of the denomination's five official ethnic caucuses (Black Methodists for Church Renewal, Metodistas Asociados Representando la Causa de los Hispano-Americanos, National Federation of Asian American United Methodists, Native American International Caucus, and Pacific Islander National Caucus of United Methodists) and the General Commission on Religion and Race (GCORR). MFSa and the Racial-Ethnic Caucus groups of the IESDG are members of the Love Your Neighbor Coalition. Learn more www.lyncolalition.org