

Title: Antiracism Policy

Page 1 of 2

**Policy Statement:**

Covenant Presbyterian Church aspires to what Jesus called the abundant life for all of God's children. We believe in, and will continue to work for, the promotion of, human dignity, respect for all people, and the value that diversity brings to our church and our community.

**Foundational Principles**

*I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I loved you, you also should love one another. John 13:34 NRSV*

The unity of believers in Christ is reflected in the rich diversity of the Church's membership. In Christ, by the power of the Spirit, God unites persons through baptism regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sex, disability, geography, or theological conviction. There is therefore no place in the life of the Church for discrimination against any person. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall guarantee full participation and representation in its worship, governance, and emerging life to all persons or groups within its membership. No member shall be denied participation or representation for any reason other than those stated in this Constitution. Book of Order, *Unity in Diversity* (F-1.0403)

The mission of God in Christ gives shape and substance to the life and work of the Church. In Christ, the Church participates in God's mission for the transformation of creation and humanity by proclaiming to **all** people the good news of God's love, offering to **all** people the grace of God at font and table, and calling **all** people to discipleship in Christ. Book of Order, *God's Mission* (F-1.01)

**Implementation:** In furtherance of these principles, Covenant Presbyterian Church commits to:

1. As a Matthew 25 church, participate in our community to combat individual, institutional, and structural forms of racism.
2. Promote racial equality by creating environments within and beyond the church where all individuals can feel valued, respected and empowered to succeed.
3. Foster diversity by nurturing an inclusive community so that individuals from all backgrounds are welcomed and can thrive.
4. Welcome all persons into the life of the church and celebrate the blessings of diversity and inclusivity as a loving community of Christ.

Title: Antiracism Policy

Page 2 of 2

**Communication:** In support of these principles, Covenant commits to:

1. Publish this policy on the Covenant Presbyterian Church website and in The Covenant Connection newsletter.
2. Include this policy in the new members' notebook.
3. Share this policy with elders-elect in their training.
4. Share this policy with new staff at the commencement of employment.

References: *Facing Racism, A Vision of the Intercultural Community Churchwide Antiracism Policy*, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), 2016

Adopted by Session, 08/17/2025