Resolution 1
Resolution 2

183rd Annual Convention
November 7, 2020
Resolution 1: Diocesan Work on History of Complicity with White Supremacy

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis, rooted in our Baptismal Vow to persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever we fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord, acknowledges and laments the sins of white supremacy and systemic racism that has divided, broken, and limited us in our mission of reconciling all people to God and each other through Jesus Christ and in becoming the Beloved Community; and be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis, as a first step toward reconciliation, commits to sharing, learning and hearing the truths of the ways our members, congregations, and diocese have been historically complicit, through both commission and omission, in acts of prejudice, discrimination, racism, and systemic oppression that have specifically impacted and harmed Black and Brown persons, both within our own congregations and ministries, and also in our local communities; and be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis directs our Bishop to appoint the Indianapolis Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE), our diocesan historiographer, and, under the direction of the local chapter of UBE, a team of six (6) volunteer lay leaders, comprised of one leader from each diocesan neighborhood, to gather stories and examples of our historic complicity in acts of prejudice, discrimination, racism, and systemic oppression from our congregations, members and community partners, and to examine the historical minutes and records of our congregations for such actions, along with relevant local and regional histories of such actions as they pertain to the Episcopal Church in this Diocese; and be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis directs every congregation, Vestry, Bishop’s Committee, clergyperson-in-charge, and Warden to aid the UBE in the collection of these stories of our church’s historic complicity in prejudice, discrimination, racism, and systemic oppression from our church records, members and local neighbors; and be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis directs the UBE to present to the 184th Convention of this Diocese, and afterward to every congregation, a compilation of these stories in a video documentary presentation, audio collection, and a digital collection, along with recommendations for next steps in reconciliation, healing, and equity; and be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis makes a budget allocation of $25,000 in 2021 for the implementation of this resolution to cover vendors and contractor costs, including, but not limited to, project management, videography and audio recording/production, website development, interviewing, and data collection, serving under the direction of the UBE.

Offered by Diocese of Indianapolis Chapter of The Union of Black Episcopalians
Resolution 2: Congregational Anti-Racism Work

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis, affirms that Black Lives Matter; and, be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis decries every form and expression of racism and white supremacy, including those expressions by alt-right white supremacy, the Ku Klux Klan, Christian Identity Adherents, white nationalism, and Neo-Nazism, as antithetical to the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis charges our clergy, lay leaders, congregations and ministries to denounce, repudiate, and actively work against white supremacy and every form of racial and ethnic hatred as evil and anathema to the vows of our Baptismal Covenant; and be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis directs each congregation and diocesan ministry to report to the Secretary of the Diocese no later than August 31, 2021 the work that their congregation or ministry has done between November 2020 and August 2021 in dismantling systemic racism through storytelling, community listening, and engagement with civic organizations and partner religious institutions; and, be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis directs the Secretary of the Diocese to publish these reports in the preparatory materials for the 184th Convention of the Diocese of Indianapolis; and, be it further

Resolved, that this 183rd Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Indianapolis directs each canonically resident, active deacon and priest to report to the Bishop in writing no later than August 31, 2021 the work they have personally undertaken within the past year to dismantle systemic racism through preaching, teaching, storytelling, community listening, and engagement with civic organizations and partner religious institutions.

Sponsored by:
Diocese of Indianapolis Chapter of The Union of Black Episcopalians