

1 Total Number of Pages: 2
2 Suggested Title: Article V. Racial Justice
3 Discipline: Article V
4 Action Required: Amend Article V
5 General Church Budget Implications: None
6 Global Implications: Yes
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8 Article V. Racial Justice - The United Methodist Church proclaims that from God's goodness
9 and love, God created all persons the value of each person as God's a unique and beloved
10 children. child of God and commits itself to the healing and wholeness of all persons. The United
11 Methodist Church recognizes that the sin of racism has been destructive to its unity throughout
12 its history. Racism continues to cause painful division and marginalization. The United
13 Methodist Church shall confront and seek to eliminate racism, whether in organizations or in
14 individuals, in every facet of its life and in society at large. The United Methodist Church shall
15 work collaboratively with others to address concerns that threaten the cause of racial justice at all
16 times and in all places. Racism opposes God's law, goodness and love and diminishes the image
17 of God in each person. Fueled by white privilege, white supremacy and colonialism, the sin of
18 racism has been a destructive scourge on global society and throughout the history of The United
19 Methodist Church. It continues to destroy our communities, harm persons, obstruct unity and
20 undermine God's work in this world. Racism must be eradicated. Therefore, The United
21 Methodist Church commits to confronting and eliminating all forms of racism, racial inequity,
22 colonialism, white privilege and white supremacy, in every facet of its life and in society at
23 large.

24

25 Rationale:

26 The sin of racism, fueled by white privilege and colonialism, is a continual a scourge on The
27 United Methodist Church and on society, which must not be allowed to continue. The language
28 proposed in this petition to amend the constitution is more direct and unequivocal in both
29 denouncing racism and declaring that the United Methodist Church must live as an actively anti-
30 racist institution (which it currently is not). Passage of this amendment will make clear and
31 solidify The UMC's stand to defend against or flush out, the pathogens of resistance, fragility,
32 inequity, discrimination and oppression that flow through the life blood of this denomination.

33 Date September 13, 2019