

Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ Our Covenant with Black People Against Racism in America

The people of Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ in Spokane add our voices to speak out against racism and white supremacy in our culture and institutions.

As a majority white congregation, most of us have not experienced the pain and trauma of racism. We recognize that apathy and silence contribute to racism and hinder progress toward racial equity. We want to challenge our complacency and understand those attitudes and assumptions that lead to prejudice and discrimination. We encourage each of us to become aware of our thoughts and actions that enable racism to persist. We strive to listen, learn and act to dismantle institutional racism.

In that light:

We recognize the uniquely long and cruel history of enslavement of Black people in America with its legacy of racism that was re-shaped into Jim Crow laws, lynchings, and legislation that denied Black people in America full human and civil rights guaranteed in the United States Constitution.

We recognize the resulting institutional racism that impacts Black people in America every day through discrimination in housing, employment, health care, voting, education, services, and the criminal justice system. This discrimination compromises the financial, physical, and social well-being of generations of Black people in America.

We stand in support of organizations that work to end institutional racism and we join in working on initiatives and legislation to that end.

We stand in solidarity at rallies and protests and we speak up in the face of racist rhetoric, jokes, and comments.

We act to vote for candidates who speak out against racism and to vote for candidates who bring true representation to our local, state, and national governments.

In our lives, we are taught and led every day by Jesus, a person of color. With God's help and with the confidence that nothing truly separates any of us from the love of God, we seek to do our part to overcome racism and heal the injustices in our society. We, at Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ, are ready to show up with open eyes, open hearts, and open minds to be instruments of the transformation for justice and healing.