

## Minute on Becoming an Anti-Racist Faith Community

America has never repented of its original sin: genocide and slavery. We choose to no longer be complicit in the terror that grips our brothers and sisters in the jaws of racism and sanctioned murder. We cannot both be comfortable *and* stand for justice. At what we hope will prove to be a tipping point in history, we affirm our choice to stand steadfastly for the right to human dignity.

Our testimonies of equality, non-violence, and community lead us as Red Cedar Friends Meeting to commit to becoming an actively anti-racist faith community.

Living into this goal means we will need to shift our attitudes: we must trust each other to use our differing perspectives toward seeing and erasing racial injustice even when we're still learning or make mistakes. We will not judge each other but will "help each other up with a tender hand," in the words of Quaker author Isaac Pennington. This will also involve seeking out new ways to act. For now, we begin with these:

- \* We will continue to learn and teach more deeply about racial injustice.
- \* We will expect Meeting for Business to ask, "How does this action contribute to or limit our intention to become actively anti-racist?"
- \*We will ask each of our committees to look at ways of becoming more anti-racist and let the rest of us know what they discover.
- \*We will, as a community, seek ways to notice, mark, mourn and speak out against acts of racial violence in the world around us.
- \*We will look for partners with whom to cooperate in resisting and dismantling racism.
- \*We commit ourselves to stand in solidarity and share resources with victims of injustice.

As we live into becoming the anti-racist Meeting we wish to be, we expect our spiritual depth to increase, our hope and joy to rise and our community to become more faithful.

Minute approved by Red Cedar Friends Lansing Michigan on June 14, 2020.  
Sent by Terry Grant, Clerk, Red Cedar Friends Meeting