

“Standing in solidarity with the oppressed: the murder of George Floyd”
A Statement of the Korean Council of the New York Annual Conference

We, the Korean Council of the New York Annual Conference, condemn the systemic evil manifested in many forms and shapes of racism—racial discrimination, racial inequity, racial profiling, racial stereotyping, white supremacy—still perpetrated in the murder of Mr. George Floyd.

We name racism as a sin that trespasses beyond individual ethics and faith, even fortified into structural, systemic oppression in society.

We repent of our complicit silence for the anti-Black attitudes and actions in society and mourn for the numerous Black lives taken away by the instruments of racism still today. We reproach our passive stance on systematic inequity and oppression toward people of color.

We acknowledge the civil rights that Korean American communities enjoy in this nation were impossible without the blood and tears of our Black sisters and brothers who have tirelessly combat against racism.

Therefore, we stand with the Black community and those who fight against racism as allies and partners. We pledge ourselves to pray and act among all the Korean American communities until racial equality and justice roll down like waters.

Action items:

1. We commit to educate ourselves within our faith communities on how to resist and dismantle systemic racism by learning the racial history in the United States and the biblical justice on racism.
2. We commit to continue our advocacy and promotion of the “Human Relations Sunday” annually and utilize the “Human Relations Sunday Special Offering” to undo racism.
3. We commit ourselves to be in intentional solidarity with our Black, Latinx, Native American and all other Asian-Pacific Islander sisters and brothers, and actively work alongside with the agencies, caucuses, and conferences in the United Methodist Church whose stated goal is to dismantle systemic racism and overcome white supremacy.
4. We commit to exercise our rights to vote against any policymakers and groups who conspire racism.
5. We continue to stand with the oppressed and the least among us to advance the Kingdom/Kin-dom of God on earth.

“Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”
(Amos 5:24)

June 11, 2020

The Korean Council of the New York Annual Conference in the United Methodist Church
President: Yongyeun Lee and 68 others

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