

**MOUNT PLEASANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
MOUNT PLEASANT, SC
ANTI-RACISM POLICY**

“As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise” (Gal. 3:27–29).

The unity of believers in Christ is reflected in the rich diversity of the Church’s membership. In Christ, by the power of the Spirit, God unites persons through baptism regardless of race, ethnicity, age, sex, disability, geography, or theological conviction. There is therefore no place in the life of the Church for discrimination against any person. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) shall guarantee full participation and representation in its worship, governance, and emerging life to all persons or groups within its membership. No member shall be denied participation or representation for any reason other than those stated in the Constitution of the PC(USA). [F-1.0403]

Racism is more than individual acts of bigotry or prejudice. Racism is any system, institution, or cultural practice or tradition that protects or prefers the lives, property, and status of one race over another. It is any system, institution, or cultural practice or tradition that gives power to one race over another.

Racism is the opposite of what God intends for humanity. It is the rejection of the other, which is entirely contrary to the Word of God incarnate in Jesus Christ. Racism is antithetical to our Christian beliefs, for it says that some are less than others. Because of our biblical understanding of who God is and what God intends for humanity, Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church must stand against, speak against, and work against racism.

G-3.0106 of the Book of Order requires each Council to adopt an anti-racism policy.

At Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church, we are committed to actively combating racism in all its forms and striving to create a community that reflects the love and justice of Jesus Christ. As followers of Christ, we believe that all people are created equal in the eyes of God and deserve to be treated with dignity, respect, and compassion. Therefore, we have established this anti-racism policy to guide our actions and uphold our commitment to justice and equality:

Statement of Principle

We affirm that racism is a sin and a violation of God’s will for humanity. We reject all forms of racism, including but not limited to individual acts of discrimination, systemic inequalities, and institutionalized racism. We believe that it is our moral and spiritual

duty to actively work towards dismantling racist structures and promoting racial justice in our church, our community, and the world.

Education and Awareness

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church is committed to educating ourselves and our community about the history and impact of racism, both within the church and in society at large. We will provide opportunities for learning and dialogue on topics such as *historic* injustice and discrimination, systemic racism, racial reconciliation, and the experiences of people of color. We will also strive to amplify the voices of people of color within our congregation and listen with humility and openness to their experiences and perspectives.

Community Engagement

Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church will engage with our local community and partner with organizations that are working towards racial justice and equity. We will strive to build relationships with individuals from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds, listen to their concerns, and support initiatives that foster racial reconciliation and solidarity. We will also advocate for policies and practices that address the root causes of racism and promote equality and justice for all.

Leadership Commitment

The leadership of Mount Pleasant Church, comprising the pastors, elders, deacons, and staff, is committed to modeling anti-racist behavior and upholding the principles outlined in this policy. We will hold ourselves accountable to the highest standards of integrity and transparency in our efforts to combat racism and promote racial justice within our congregation and beyond. We will strive to create spaces and programs that are welcoming and affirming to people of all races, cultures, and identities.

Anti-Racist Action and Accountability

We recognize that combating racism requires more than just words; it requires concrete action. Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church will actively work to identify and address instances of racism within our congregation, including discriminatory practices and racial bias. We will strive to cultivate a culture of inclusivity and belonging where individuals from all racial and ethnic backgrounds feel valued, heard, and supported.

Every sessional committee shall report annually on its activities in implementing this policy.

By adopting this anti-racism policy, Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church reaffirms our commitment to living out the gospel message of love, justice, and reconciliation. Together, let us work towards building a world where all God's children are treated with dignity, respect, and equality.

Adopted: February 24, 2026