

## Because We Believe:

1. That God is the Creator of all people, and all are God's children in one family;
2. That racism is a rejection of the teachings of Jesus Christ;
3. That racism denies the redemption and reconciliation of Jesus Christ;
4. That racism robs all human beings of their wholeness and is used as a justification for social, economic, environmental and political exploitation;
5. That we must declare before God and before one another that we have sinned against our sister and brothers of other races in thought, in word and in deed;
6. That in our common humanity in creation, all women and men are made in God's image, and all persons are equally valuable in the sight of God;
7. That our strength lies in our racial and cultural diversity and that we must work toward a world in which each person's value is respected and nurtured;
8. That our struggle for justice must be based on new attitudes, new understandings and new relationships, and must be reflected in the laws, policies, structures and practices of both church and state...

## Charter for Racial Justice Monthly Observance

**January**—Martin Luther King Jr Day

**February**—Black History Month, Human Trafficking

**March**—Prison Ministry, Women's History Month

**April**—Easter, Native American Ministry Sunday

**May**—Cinco de Mayo, Maternal and Child Care, Memorial Day Asian American, Pacific Islander Heritage Month

**June**—Juneteenth Celebration

**July**—Independence Day

**August**— Day of International World Indigenous People

**September** — International Day of Peace, Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15—Oct. 15)

**October**—Food Day, Immigration Day, Domestic Violence Month

**November**—Thanksgiving Day, Veterans Day, Thankoffering

**December**—Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah, Migrant Day

## Charter for Racial Justice



The symbol represents United Women In Faith's commitment to work for racial justice. It symbolizes a world of racially and ethnically diverse peoples working together side by side to create a world in which every person has a voice, rights and opportunity for abundant life. Within the image are two hands joined together to work for justice for all God's children.

## Charter for Racial Justice

The United States—a nation of many peoples of different races, nationalities, languages and cultures—is challenged to make the Charter for Racial Justice a charter for everyone.

The Charter for Racial Justice was created and adopted by the Women's Division of the United Methodist General Board of Global Ministries in 1978. In 1980 the division successfully recommended adoption of the charter by the whole denomination. General Conference has consecutively readopted it, every eight years since, most recently in 2008. The charter continues United Women In Faith urgent call for study and action on the principles and goals of its vision.

Great Plains Charter for Racial Justice Support team:

Janice Elmore  
Debra Hayes

Susan Mukwindidza

Rose Roberts

Pearline Smith

Marge Zakoura Vaughan

## Action Steps/ Suggestions

- Plan and hold a joint meeting with a unit or circle or circle of a different ethnic/racial background.
- Send one member of your unit to Mission u to take the geographic study, or other appropriate study, and present it in your unit or other group in the church.
- Participate in planning and implementing ethnic emphasis activities in your local church, unit, school or community, such as Black History Month, Human Relations Day, Native American Awareness, etc.
- Read at least two books from the Reading Program list that are written about another culture, or by an author of a different racial/ethnic background.
- Hold a postcard writing session within your unit to contact legislators regarding justice issues for racial/ethnic groups.

## Action Steps / Suggestions

- Present at least one program from the UMW Program Book that deals with diversity or social justice issues.
- Clip newspaper articles related to racism, both positive and negative.
- Have a program using a video that deals with racial justice and hold a discussion following the viewing.
- Use the UMW Prayer Calendar to communicate with a missionary or mission in another culture or county.
- Create your own activity or project that expresses the intent and spirit of the Charter for Racial Justice.

