

COMMISSION ON RACE & RECONCILIATION

The Commission on Race and Reconciliation continues to serve the diocese offering its prayers, healing, and training to raise the awareness of systemic racism, as well as an annual book study. We consult with the bishop to identify leaders in our diocese that will increase ethnic diversity reflective of our society.

In the last year, new initiatives through the commission include presenting through *Grace Happens* an offering of prayers by famous people of color, and the introduction of the first annual diocesan-wide book study on race, which began with *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving.

Trainings to address racism were offered this year at St. Andrew's, Highland Park, and St. James, Penn Hills. These trainings, *Seeing the Face of God in Each Other*, increase the desire to break down the systemic walls of racism that oppress and divide, and promote the vision for the Beloved Community addressed as one pillar of our Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's ministry goals. The anti-racism training central to our ministry grows out of the resolutions of several General Conventions, and is required of, but not limited to, all leaders and employees of our diocese.

The end of racism is an infinite work. We invite everyone to come and begin a deeper journey in the work toward that Beloved Community.

Faithfully,
The Rev. Michael Foley
Chair, Commission on Race & Reconciliation