



## Resolution 03-04-21

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**SUBJECT: TO REJECT RACISM AND ADVANCE THE GOSPEL**

(Reference Overture(s) 03-01-21, 03-02-21, 03-04-21, 03-06-21, 03-07-21, Late Overture 03-09-21 printed on page 157-158, 159-160, 162-163, 165-166, 167-168 of Convention Workbook)

**WHEREAS,** God has created all people and they are blood related going back to our mutual fathers, Adam and Noah, and all are subject to the stain of original sin, but now also have been equally redeemed by the blood of Christ in order to be reconciled to God and to each other; and

**WHEREAS,** God's Word says, "If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors." (James 2:8, 9); and

**WHEREAS,** Racism (the sinful notion that some races are inherently superior to others), misunderstanding, and strife are present in the world and in the Church; and

**WHEREAS,** The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) abhors racism, and in convention has passed resolutions repudiating all racism, (see 1992 Res. 3-03 and 2019 Res. 11-04A); and

**WHEREAS,** Critical Race Theory (CRT) has become a common, multifaceted, and controversial theory for discussion of contemporary race relations; therefore be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Mid-South District in convention reject the world view of CRT where it is contrary to Scripture and counterproductive to true racial conversation and reconciliation, and also reject all organizations, movements, petitions, and theological language that support that world view in a positive manner; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That the LCMS Mid-South District reject any doctrine that teaches:

- One's race, ancestry, or nationality are inherently superior to the race, ancestry, or nationality of another.
- Any individual is inherently racist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously, because of his or her race, ancestry, or nationality; and be it further

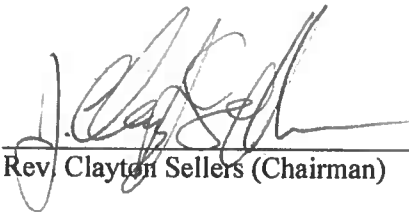
**RESOLVED,** That the circuits of the Mid-South District of the LCMS develop an objective mission and ministry action plan for outreach to diverse communities among us; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That the congregations of the LCMS Mid-South District be encouraged to conduct conversations on race and diversity, to strengthen unity within the congregation; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That the congregations of the LCMS Mid-South District be encouraged to engage members of their communities in these conversations, in light of Christ's Gospel; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** We commend those within the LCMS Mid-South District who intentionally proclaim and work to reach out with the Gospel of Jesus to those who are different from themselves in the light of the Great Commission; and be it finally

**RESOLVED,** That the Mid-South District send this resolution to the Synod as it gathers at its 2023 Convention to do similarly.

  
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Rev. Clayton Sellers (Chairman)

  
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Rev. Daniel Ulrich (Secretary)