

The Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee on Affirming Identity as Members of the Beloved Community

Whereas “Beloved Community: The Commission for Racial Reconciliation and Healing” of the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee was established in 2017; and

Whereas the Diocesan Commission seeks to work toward full inclusivity, both racially and ethnically regarding the staff of the Diocese, elected lay and clergy leaders, clergy and bishops; taking steps in the healing of the wounds of our Church, its members and our communities; and to educate members about the effects of the sin of racism on the oppressor and the oppressed, conveying the understanding that racism hurts everyone; and

Whereas we share a common faith, life and mission as Baptized Christians and Episcopalians in the Diocese of Tennessee; and

Whereas Galatians 3:28 informs us “there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus”; therefore be it

Resolved, that this 187th Diocesan Convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee affirm, recognize, and celebrate our membership in the Beloved Community of the Diocese and beyond; and be it further

Resolved that we support through prayers and by active participation in the ongoing ministry of the Commission.