

Presbytery of Wyoming Anti-Racism Policy

The Presbytery of Wyoming acknowledges the sin of racism and the role racism has played in the world and the church. We put forward this anti-racism policy to call out and promise ourselves to the work of counteracting the sin of racism. We define racism as the combination of social power and racial prejudice to create systems that treat people differently, based on their defined racial group. Privileges are provided for some while dehumanizing, excluding or oppressing others.

Facing Racism: A Vision of the Intercultural Community, the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) churchwide antiracism policy, affirms that “racism is the opposite of what God intends for humanity. ...[it] is a lie about our fellow human beings, for it says that some are less than others.” The church is mandated in Facing Racism to “embrace antiracism as a major part of [our] corporate identity.”

To this end, we state unequivocally that racism and all forms of discrimination and marginalization are sins against humanity and God, inconsistent with our Christian and corporate values and unacceptable within the Presbytery of Wyoming. All of our practices (written, spoken, formal and informal) will be continually examined for the influence of racism and when found will be acknowledged and remedied. We acknowledge that this work will not be easy. But, as our church wide antiracism policy affirms:

“Because of our biblical understanding of who God is and what God intends for humanity, the PC(USA) must stand against, speak against, and work against racism. Antiracist effort is not optional for Christians. It is an essential aspect of Christian discipleship, without which we fail to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ.