

COMMISSION ON RELIGION AND RACE

Accountability

The Purpose/Mission Statement of the Commission on Religion and Race is “Working together to open hearts, minds and doors.” Our work is accomplished through monitoring, training, educating and consulting with the conference boards, agencies, districts circuits and local congregations to provide awareness and opportunities for inclusion and to assist with reviewing practices and policies that may create barriers to the promotion of diversity and inclusiveness.

Highlights of the Past Year

- Lenten Bible Study, “Called to Inclusiveness,” was on our website.
- Spring Retreat in Neenah, Wisconsin. Theme: “Living in Community.” We offered learning opportunities in the areas of cultural sensitivity, extending hospitality to the sojourner in our midst, and white privilege. We had Bible study and watched the movie, “Crash,” with a prepared discussion guide from the General Commission on Religion and Race. We also invited a panel of diverse persons to share with us their experiences as recent immigrants.
- We supported an immigration resolution presented at Annual Conference.
- Display at Annual Conference.
- We monitor at Annual Conference with one report.

Plans for the Coming Year

- Promote diverse hiring practices in the Annual Conference
- Promote Racial Justice Events during Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday and on the regional and or circuit levels.
- Encourage training at National, NCJ and conference learning experiences such as: leadership development, lay speaking (Native American), spiritual renewal, family and youth camp, exchange and joint ministries, volunteer mission, Dream Chasing College tour, Heritage celebration and Road to Emmaus in Spanish.
- Planning for hosting NCJ 2010 in Wisconsin.

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