

A Report from the Antiracism Commission of the
Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania to the
226th Diocesan Convention

The Antiracism Commission (ARC) in 2008 was occupied in planning for the establishment of a Diocesan Antiracism Team (ART). Beginning in February 2009 team training and development commenced. Eleven members of our diocese responded to the call to form the ART and they gathered for 10 days of intensive training between February and June 2009. This training permitted the ART to gain a deeper understanding of the Crossroads analysis of the systematic nature of racism, its institutional impact and the process of institutional change. The team meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month to further team bonding, visioning and strategic planning. It is the goal of the Antiracism Commission and Antiracism Team that our diocese continues to work to dismantle racism in and around our diocese.

In addition to the 10-day Team Training a 1-day Antiracism Orientation Workshop was offered in September 2009 to accomplish the following: 1) observe a Crossroads Ministry presentation of a training that the ART will customize for diocesan implementation, 2) allowed diocesan leaders who have not had previous exposure to the Crossroads analysis gain such and 3) permit those who need to satisfy canonical requirements for antiracism participate in an antiracism training event do so.

The goals of the ARC for 2009 are to:

1. To assist and ensure the work of the ART.
2. To assist the diocese in fulfilling General Convention Resolution 2006-A123 which called for each diocese to (a) collect and document the complicity of the Episcopal Church in the institution of slavery and in the subsequent history of segregation and discrimination and (b) collect and document the economic benefits The Episcopal Church derived from the institution of slavery.
3. To interact with the Antiracism work happening on all levels of our church life.

Antiracism Team 2009

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