

1 **Standing Resolution #3**

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3 **2021 OREGON-IDAHO**  
4 **ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

5  
6 **TITLE: Confronting Racism and White Supremacy**

7 **SPONSORING GROUP OR INDIVIDUAL: Methodist Federation for Social Action**

8 **SPOKESPERSON: Jan Nelson**

9 **SPOKESPERSON'S ADDRESS: 1845 High St SE, Salem, OR 97302**

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11 **SPOKESPERSON'S TELEPHONE: 503-689-3688**

12 **LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ACTION: Recommend for approval 19-0-0.**

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14 **This petition is: A New Standing Resolution;**

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16 **Text of the Standing Resolution as it would appear in the Conference Journal:**

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18 We, the members of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference, abhor the evils of racism and white  
19 supremacy that exist in our denomination, our congregations, and our hearts. We pledge to seek out  
20 and break down the institutional roots of racism in our conference structure, churches and leadership  
21 practices. We know that these evils often go unrecognized. We know that many of our churches are  
22 predominantly white, lacking the leadership and representation of Black, Indigenous, and People of  
23 Color (BIPOC).

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25 We will urge white people to listen to people of color who have experienced racism in their lives, to  
26 believe these witnesses and learn from them, and to study in order to understand. We will have honest  
27 conversations about the white supremacy that exists in our churches and our institutional structure, and  
28 we will resist tokenizing, harming, and putting the responsibility for change on BIPOC members of the  
29 community. As we learn, we will reshape our lives and our church to be free from structures and  
30 practices that cause these harms to the Body of Christ.

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32 We further pledge to work for the elimination of racism and white supremacy from the laws and  
33 practices of our government, economy, and society.

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35 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

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37 **What will this action accomplish?**

38 Change in the society must begin with change in the minds and hearts of individuals. If we can change  
39 the church, that will be a step toward a more just world for all. And it will be a more authentic witness  
40 to the life, teaching, and ministry of Jesus.

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42 **Why is it important?**

43 Nothing will change unless we change it. The Kin-dom of God cannot exist in the presence of injustice.

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45 **How will it be carried out? By whom?**

46 This will be carried out personally by every member willing to make a commitment and by church  
47 leaders at every level, as part of carrying out the church's ministry. We look to the conference  
48 Commission on Religion and Race for leadership and resources, and we expect other conference leaders

1 to help strengthen their work. But we also know that no other group can do the work that needs to  
2 happen in every congregation.

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4 **How much will it cost? Where will the money come from?**

5 There is no initial financial cost. When this work is done seriously, there will need to be an eventual  
6 discussion of reparations, some of which may be financial.

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