

Reflections from the CENTER FOR RECONCILIATION

The mission of the church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. (Book of Common Prayer, p. 855)

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation... (2 Corinthians 5:18)

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, speaking at a conference:

“I’m so glad you have gathered see the video, Reconciled and Gathered, to look at ways that we, as followers of Jesus Christ can be witnesses to the work of reconciliation – the work of respecting, not only the dignity of every human being, but the work of respecting ourselves as part of the human family of God. There is a real and a profound difference between simply being a member of the human race and being a member of the human family of God.

- What do you see as the difference between being a member of the human race and being a member of the human family of God?

The human family of God embraces ALL of us in our variety and our diversity and in the human family of God there are really no “others” because the others are us. That we are all one in the human family of God, and there is room for us all. And so the work of reconciliation is the work of helping the human race become the human family that God dreams and that God intends.

- What do you think is “the human family that God dreams and that God intends?”

Reflections from the CENTER FOR RECONCILIATION

The mission of the church is to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ. (Book of Common Prayer, p. 855)

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation... (2 Corinthians 5:18)

Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, speaking at a conference:

“I’m so glad you have gathered see the video, Reconciled and Gathered, to look at ways that we, as followers of Jesus Christ can be witnesses to the work of reconciliation – the work of respecting, not only the dignity of every human being, but the work of respecting ourselves as part of the human family of God. There is a real and a profound difference between simply being a member of the human race and being a member of the human family of God.

- What do you see as the difference between being a member of the human race and being a member of the human family of God?

The human family of God embraces ALL of us in our variety and our diversity and in the human family of God there are really no “others” because the others are us. That we are all one in the human family of God, and there is room for us all. And so the work of reconciliation is the work of helping the human race become the human family that God dreams and that God intends.

- What do you think is “the human family that God dreams and that God intends?”

In that human family of God, all are welcome because all have been created by the one God and creator of us all. And if we have been created by the one God who has created us all, then that means we're related. If we have the same mother or the same father that means we are brothers and sisters. We are family. We may be dysfunctional but we are family. God's dream is that we would work to build a world where we all truly live as a family defined by love. That is the work of reconciliation. That is the work you are about. And indeed that is the work of the Jesus movement in this world. St. Paul's said it this way in Second Corinthians: "God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and he has now given to us the work of reconciliation."

- If reconciliation is the core of the church's mission, how does the church do the work of reconciliation?

The mission of the Center for Reconciliation is to confront the history and legacies of slavery and the slave trade in order to build respectful and equitable relationships. We seek to change hearts and minds through collaboration focused on learning, healing and justice.

In that human family of God, all are welcome because all have been created by the one God and creator of us all. And if we have been created by the one God who has created us all, then that means we're related. If we have the same mother or the same father that means we are brothers and sisters. We are family. We may be dysfunctional but we are family. God's dream is that we would work to build a world where we all truly live as a family defined by love. That is the work of reconciliation. That is the work you are about. And indeed that is the work of the Jesus movement in this world. St. Paul's said it this way in Second Corinthians: "God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself, and he has now given to us the work of reconciliation."

- If reconciliation is the core of the church's mission, how does the church do the work of reconciliation?

The mission of the Center for Reconciliation is to confront the history and legacies of slavery and the slave trade in order to build respectful and equitable relationships. We seek to change hearts and minds through collaboration focused on learning, healing and justice.