

REGIONAL RESOLUTION
For the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky
March 15, 2024

- Whereas,** All people are made in the image and likeness of God, deserving of respect, dignity, and opportunities to flourish, and also connected inextricably to one another as children of God; and
- Whereas,** The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world; and
- Whereas,** Section 25 of Kentucky's Constitution still allows for slavery and involuntary servitude as a punishment for a crime; and
- Whereas,** Provisions like Section 25 were used by states and the Federal Government to allow formerly enslaved people to be unjustly targeted, disproportionately incarcerated, and forcibly exploited for their labor; and
- Whereas,** The presence of the exception clause for slavery and involuntary servitude denigrates the image of God in all people, fragments the human community, and continues both symbolically and practically to negatively impact the Commonwealth of Kentucky, morally, socially, and spiritually:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Regional Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky, meeting August 1-3, 2024 in Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, affirms our shared responsibility for working together to remove the exception clause for slavery and involuntary servitude and all its insidious effects; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Regional Church will support the education, individual and congregational efforts, and partnerships necessary to advocate for amending Section 25 of the Constitution of Kentucky, striking the exception clause, so it would clearly and directly read, "Section 25 slavery and involuntary servitude in this State are forbidden."

